**Thank you for joining us as we**

**Worship our Lord**

February 14, 2021

9:45am Service

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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. *2 Kings 2:11*

**Mount Olive Lutheran Church**

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Online Giving: <https://app.easytithe.com/app/giving/mountolivelockport>

**STEWARDSHIP NOTE. . .**

**Jesus said "For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also."**

***Sunday, February 14, 2021***

***Blended Noncommunion Service***

**THE TRANSFIGURATION OF OUR LORD**

***Pre-Service Music***

***WELCOME***

***OPENING SONG***

***“From all that Dwells below the Skies”***

From all that dwell below the skies,
Let the Creator's praise arise;

Alleluia, alleluia
Let the Redeemer's name be sung
Through ev'ry land by ev'ry tongue.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia

 Eternal are Thy mercies Lord;
Eternal truth attends Thy Word;

Alleluia, alleluia
Thy praise shall sound

from shore to shore
Till suns shall rise and set no more.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia

All praise to God the Father be

All praise eternal Son to Thee

Alleluia, alleluia

Whom with the Spirit we adore

Forever and forever more

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia

***SHARING OF THE PEACE***

***INVOCATION***

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**People: Amen.**

***OPENING SENTENCES***

Pastor: For thus said the Lord God, the Holy One of Israel,

**People: “In returning and rest you shall be saved; in quietness and in trust shall be your strength.”**

Pastor: Therefore the Lord waits to be gracious to you, and therefore He exalts Himself to show mercy to you.

**People: For the Lord is a God of justice; blessed are all those who wait for Him.**

Pastor: You shall have a song as in the night when a holy feast is kept,

**People: and gladness of heart, as when one sets out to the sound of the flute to go to the mountain of the Lord, to the Rock of Israel.**

***CONFESSION***

Pastor: 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.

**People: Have mercy on us, and forgive us, O Lord.**

Pastor: We confess that we have not always brought glory to You through our words and our deeds.

**People: Have mercy on us, and forgive us, O Lord.**

Pastor: 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.

**People: Have mercy on us, and forgive us, O Lord.**

Pastor: 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.

**People: Amen.**

***ABSOLUTION***

***KYRIE (Spoken)***

Pastor: In peace let us pray to the Lord.

**People: Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor: For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.

**People: Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.

**People: Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor: For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.

**People: Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

**All: Amen.**

***SONG OF PRAISE***

***“Create in Me"***

Create in me a clean heart, O God,
and renew a right spirit within me.

Create in me a clean heart, O God,
and renew a right spirit within me.

Cast me not away from Thy presence, O Lord,
and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me.
Restore to me the joy of Thy salvation,
and renew a right Spirit within me.

***SALUTATION***

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

**People:** **And also with you.**

***PRAYER OF THE DAY***

Pastor: 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.

**People: Amen.**

***CELEBRATION OF THE DAY***

Reader 1: 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.

*Reader 2: 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.*

Reader 1: 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.

*Reader 2: Love for Christ and love in Christ shaped the actions of Valentine. On Valentine’s Day, it is good to reflect on what that love is like.*

***THE WORD***

***OLD TESTAMENT READING* *2 Kings 2:1–12***

*(English Standard Version)*

Now when the Lord was about to take Elijah up to heaven by a whirlwind, Elijah and Elisha were on their way from Gilgal. **2**And 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. **3**And 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.” **4**Elijah 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. **5**The 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.” **6**Then 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. **7**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. **8**Then 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. **9**When 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.” **10**And 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.” **11**And 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. **12**And Elisha saw it and he cried, “My father, my father! The chariots of Israel and its horsemen!” And he saw him no more.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

***PSALM*** ***Psalm 50:1–6***

**People: The Mighty One, God the Lord, speaks and summons the earth from the rising of the sun to its setting.**

*Men: Out of Zion, the perfection of beauty, God shines forth.*

***Women: Our God comes; He does not keep silence; before Him is a devouring fire, around Him a mighty tempest.***

*Men: He calls to the heavens above and to the earth, that He may judge His people:*

**Women: “Gather to Me My faithful ones, who made a covenant with Me by sacrifice!”**

**People: The heavens declare His righteousness, for God Himself is judge!

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.**

***EPISTLE*** ***2 Corinthians 3:12–18; 4:1–6***

*(English Standard Version)*

**12**Since we have such a hope, we are very bold, **13**not 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. **14**But 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. **15**Yes, to this day whenever Moses is read a veil lies over their hearts. **16**But when oneturns to the Lord, the veil is removed. **17**Now the Lordis the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. **18**And 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.

Therefore, having this ministry by the mercy of God, we do not lose heart. **2**But we have renounced disgraceful, underhanded ways. We refuse to practicecunning 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. **3**And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. **4**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. **5**For what we proclaim is not ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord, with ourselves as your servantsfor Jesus' sake. **6**For 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.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**(Please rise out of respect for the Gospel)**

***HOLY GOSPEL Mark 9:2–9***

*(English Standard Version)*

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

**People: Glory to You, O Lord.**

*Reader 1: And after 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, and His clothes became radiant, intensely white, as no one on earth could bleach them. And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses, and they were talking with Jesus. And Peter said to Jesus,*

***Reader 2: “Rabbi, it is good that we are here. Let us make three tents, one for You and one for Moses and one for Elijah.”***

Reader 1: For He did not know what to say, for they were terrified. And a cloud overshadowed them, and a voice came out of the cloud,

Pastor: “This is My beloved Son; listen to Him.”

*Reader 1: And suddenly, looking around, they no longer saw anyone with them but Jesus only.*

***Reader 2: And 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.***

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**People: Praise to You, O Christ.**

***APOSTLE’S CREED***

**People: 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**

***FEEDING OF THE LAMBS***

***SONG OF THE DAY***

***“Holy, Holy, Holy”***

Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty!

Early in the morning our song shall rise to Thee.

Holy, Holy, Holy, merciful and mighty!

God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!

Holy, Holy, Holy, All the saints adore thee!

Casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea;

Cherubim and Seraphim falling down before thee,

Which wert and art and evermore shall be.

Holy, Holy, Holy, Though the darkness hide thee,

Though the eye made blind by sin thy glory may not see,

Though only Thou art Holy; there is none beside Thee!

Perfect in power, in love and purity.

Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty!

All thy works shall praise thy name in earth and sky and sea.

Holy, Holy, Holy, merciful and mighty!

God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!

***MESSAGE “The Mountain Before us”***

***PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH***  ***(Responsive)***

***When there is no communion, Pastor will give prayers as guided by the Holy Spirit.***

Pastor: Lord in Your Mercy

**People: Hear Our Prayer**

***LORD’S PRAYER* M*atthew 6:9–13***

***Taught by our Lord and trusting in His promises, we are bold 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.

***FIRST FRUITS OFFERING***

*A tithing plate is located at the Sanctuary Entrance. Thank you.*

***DOXOLOGY*** ***Hymn #461***

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow**

**Praise Him, all creatures here below**

**Praise Him above, ye heavenly host**

**Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost**

**Amen**

***BENEDICTION***

Pastor: 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.

**People: Amen.**

***CLOSING SONG***

***“Crown Him with many Crown”***

Crown Him with many crowns,

the Lamb upon His throne

Hark how the heavenly anthem drowns

All music but its own

Awake my soul and sing

Of Him who died for Thee

And hail Him as Thy matchless King

through all eternity.

Crown Him the Lord of life

Who triumphed o'er the grave

And rose victorious in the strife

For those He came to save

His glories now we sing

Who died and rose on high

Who died eternal life to bring

And lives that death may die

Crown Him the Lord of love,

behold His hands and side

Rich wounds yet visible above

in beauty glorified

All hail redeemer hail

For Thou hast died for me

Thy praise shall never, never fail