

GOOD TO BE HERE

AS WE GATHER

On the Mount of Transfiguration, Peter blurted out that it was good the disciples were there so they could build shelters for Jesus, Moses, and Elijah. Our being close to our Lord, though, is not good so that we might do something for Him; rather, it is good because we know He has done so much for us. Moses, the greatest prophet according to the reading from Deuteronomy, spoke God's Word, but Jesus is the Word, effecting our forgiveness and salvation in His sacrifice for us. His "departure," as Luke puts it in the Gospel, is literally His exodus, not from slavery in Egypt like Moses, but from sin and death through His sacrifice on the cross. Our Lord is the builder of His "house," the Church. Only because we have been forgiven is it good for us to be here, for as the psalm reminds us, "the Lord our God is holy!"

PREPARATION

OPENING HYMN "BUILT ON THE ROCK"

#645 *sts. 1, 3, 5"*

1 Built on the Rock the Church shall stand E - ven when
3 We are God's house of liv - ing stones, Built for His
5 Grant, then, O God, Your will be done, That, when the

stee - ples are fall - ing. Crum - bled have spires in
own hab - i - ta - tion. He through bap - tis - mal
church bells are ring - ing, Man - y in sav - ing

ev - 'ry land; Bells still are chim - ing and call -
grace us owns Heirs of His won - drous sal - va -
faith may come Where Christ His mes - sage is bring -

ing, Call - ing the young and old to rest,
tion. Were we but two His name to tell,
ing: "I know My own; My own know Me.

But a - bove all the souls dis - tressed,
Yet He would deign with us to dwell
You, not the world, My face shall see.

Long - ing for rest ev - er - last - ing.
With all His grace and His fa - vor.
My peace I leave with you. A - men."

INVOCATION

- P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.

OPENING SENTENCES

Hebrews 3:6a; Luke 9:35; Psalm 99:9

- P** Christ is faithful over God's house as a son.
C And we are His house.

- P** "This is My Son, My Chosen One;
C listen to Him!"

- P** Exalt the LORD our God,
and worship at His holy mountain;
C for the LORD our God is holy!

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

1 John 1:8-9

- P** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
C But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

- P** Almighty God, merciful Father,
C we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. Forgive us for our spiritual blindness, and renew our faith in You alone.


- P** Jesus came down from the Mount of Transfiguration, even though He knew His disciples would forsake and deny Him. He went to the cross so that He could offer us all full and free forgiveness. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

- C** Amen.

WORD

901 OPEN NOW THY GATES OF BEAUTY

sts. 1-2, 5



1 O - pen now thy gates of beau - ty; Zi - on, let me
2 Gra - cious God, I come be - fore Thee; Come Thou al - so
5 Speak, O God, and I will hear Thee; Let Thy will be

en - ter there, Where my soul in joy - ful du - ty
 un - to me. Where we find Thee and a - dore Thee,
 done in - deed. May I un - dis - turbed draw near Thee

Waits for Him who an - swers prayer. Oh, how bless - ed
 There a heav'n on earth must be. To my heart, O
 While Thou dost Thy peo - ple feed. Here of life the

is this place, Filled with sol - ace, light, and grace!
 en - ter Thou; Let it be Thy tem - ple now!
 foun - tain flows; Here is balm for all our woes.

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KYRIE

- P** For peace, despite our past mistakes,
C **O Lord, have mercy on us.**
- P** For peace to hear God speaking to us in this time of worship,
C **O Lord, have mercy on us.**
- P** For peace that we may be living stones in God's house,
C **O Lord, have mercy on us, and grant us Your peace today and always.**
Amen.

HYMN OF PRAISE #O BLESS THE LORD, MY SOUL"

814

1 O bless the Lord, my soul! Let all with - in me join
 2 O bless the Lord, my soul, Nor let His mer - cies lie
 3 'Tis He for - gives thy sins; 'Tis He re - lieves thy pain;
 4 He crowns thy life with love When ran - somed from the grave;

And aid my tongue to bless His name Whose fa - vors are di - vine.
 For - got - ten in un - thank - ful - ness And with - out prais - es die!
 'Tis He that heals thy sick - ness - es And makes thee young a - gain.
 He that re - deemed my soul from hell Hath sov - 'reign pow'r to save.

- 5 He fills the poor with good;
 He gives the suff'ers rest.
 The Lord hath judgments for the proud
 And justice for th'oppressed.
- 6 His wondrous works and ways
 He made by Moses known,
 But sent the world His truth and grace
 By His beloved Son.

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.

- C** **Mercifully make us co-heirs with the King in His glory and bring us to the fullness of our inheritance in heaven;**
- P** 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 Beth-peor; 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.**

PSALM

Psalm 99; antiphon: v. 9

- P** Exalt the LORD our God, and worship at His holy mountain;
C **for the LORD our God is holy!**
- P** The LORD reigns; let the peoples tremble!
C **He sits enthroned upon the cherubim; let the earth quake!**
- P** The LORD is great in Zion;
C **He is exalted over all the peoples.**
- P** Let them praise Your great and awesome name!
C **Holy is He!**
- P** The King in His might loves justice.
You have established equity;
C **You have executed justice
and righteousness in Jacob.**
- P** Exalt the LORD our God;
worship at His footstool!
C **Holy is He!**
- P** Moses and Aaron were among His priests,
Samuel also was among those who called upon His name.
C **They called to the LORD, and He answered them.
In the pillar of the cloud He spoke to them;**
- P** they kept His testimonies
and the statute that He gave them.
C **O LORD our God, You answered them;
You were a forgiving God to them,
but an avenger of their wrongdoings.**
- P** Exalt the LORD our God,
and worship at His holy mountain;
C **for the LORD our God is holy!**

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.

- P** This is the Word of the Lord.
- C** Thanks be to God.

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

Luke 9:28–36

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

- P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.
- C** Praise to You, O Christ.

413 O WONDROUS TYPE! O VISION FAIR

1 O won - drous type! O vi - sion fair
 2 With Mo - ses and E - li - jah nigh
 3 With shin - ing face and bright ar - ray
 4 And faith - ful hearts are raised on high
 △ 5 O Fa - ther, with the e - ter - nal Son

Of glo - ry that the Church may share,
 The in - car - nate Lord holds con - verse high;
 Christ deigns to man - i - fest to - day
 By this great vi - sion's mys - ter - y,
 And Ho - ly Spir - it ev - er one,

Which Christ up - on the moun - tain shows,
 And from the cloud the Ho - ly One
 What glo - ry shall be theirs a - bove
 For which in joy - ful strains we raise
 We pray Thee, bring us by Thy grace

Where bright - er than the sun He glows!
 Bears rec - ord to the on - ly Son.
 Who joy in God with per - fect love.
 The voice of prayer, the hymn of praise.
 To see Thy glo - ry face to face.

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SERMON

APOSTLES' CREED

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.**

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

P Let us pray for the Church around the world and for all people in their various needs.

Moses was the leader of God's people as they sojourned from slavery in Egypt to the Promised Land. O Holy Spirit, raise up people to govern their nation freely and justly. Give them courage to enact laws that protect all who live within their borders. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P The Israelites had to deal with the tribes already in the Promised Land. Around the world today, good Lord, guide and protect firefighters, first responders, and all those who go in harm's way in their communities. Accompany and protect armed forces deployed across the globe wherever nations are in conflict. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P The three disciples on the mountain "were heavy with sleep." Surround people who are tired, poor, sick, or lonely with faith-filled medical personnel, friends, and family who seek to meet their needs. We pray especially for those near and dear to us, *including Hedy, Jean, Kathleen, Ray, Sallyann, Wally, Dana, Kaylee, Jean, Jen, John, Leah and Rod.* Use us as part of Your answers to their prayers, heavenly Father, to bring about strength, health, security, and companionship. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Lord Jesus, You accompanied the disciples as they returned to the others. Be among Your Church as it gathers anywhere around Word and Sacrament. Bless Your Church and give Your people courage and opportunity to spread the news of Your death for our sins and Your resurrection on the third day for our salvation. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Into Your gracious hands, heavenly Father, we commend ourselves and all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy for the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C **Amen.**

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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.**

BENEDICTION

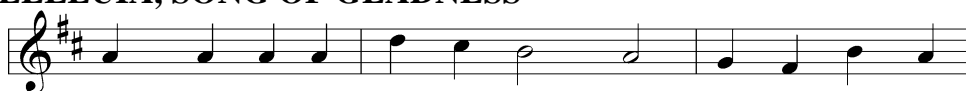
- P** The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.
- C** Amen.

FAREWELL TO ALLELUIA

Luke 9:36

- P** Luke writes that after the transfiguration, the three disciples “kept silent and told no one in those days anything of what they had seen.” Because we know about our Lord’s resurrection, we cannot keep silent, but during the season of Lent, which begins this Wednesday, we shall mute our liturgical praises and refrain from singing our alleluias until our Easter celebration. Let us sing our farewell to that song of gladness now.

417 ALLELUIA, SONG OF GLADNESS



1 Al - le - lu - ia, song of glad - ness, Voice of joy that
2 Al - le - lu - ia, thou re - sound - est, True Je - ru - sa -
3 Al - le - lu - ia can - not al - ways Be our song while
4 There - fore in our hymns we pray Thee, Grant us, bless - ed



can - not die; Al - le - lu - ia is the an - them
lem and free; Al - le - lu - ia, joy - ful moth - er,
here be - low; Al - le - lu - ia, our trans - gres - sions
Trin - i - ty, At the last to keep Thine Eas - ter



Ev - er raised by choirs on high; In the house of
All thy chil - dren sing with thee, But by Bab - y -
Make us for a while for - go; For the sol - emn
With Thy faith - ful saints on high; There to Thee for -



God a - bid - ing Thus they sing e - ter - nal - ly.
lon's sad wa - ters Mourn - ing ex - iles now are we.
time is com - ing When our tears for sin must flow.
ev - er sing - ing Al - le - lu - ia joy - ful - ly.

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DISMISSAL

- P** Go in peace as you serve the Lord.
- C** Thanks be to God.

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