

**Glory Uncovered** 

The Transfiguration

# **Worship Series: UNCOVERED**

We are in the season of the Church called Epiphany, a Greek word that means "to appear." Salvation has appeared in the person of Jesus Christ. In Epiphany, the Church explores everything that Christ makes apparent about God. You see, we need God to appear to us and make himself known to us. For not only is God beyond our understanding, his works and his ways are contrary to mankind's natural assumptions about him. In other words, the truth about God cannot possibly be discovered by us. Rather, it needs to be uncovered for us. That's what the Spirit is doing for us during this season of Epiphany. Week after week, surprising truths about Jesus our King and life in his kingdom will be uncovered.

## **Today's Theme: Glory Revealed**

Throughout Epiphany, we have seen that God must uncover for us the truths that could not be discovered by us. As this season ends, we are presented with a twist. For God's glory to be revealed, it actually must be covered. God's glory needed to be hidden in Christ. It is hidden in the gospel. This is how God enables sinful human beings to see his glory and, rather than turning away in fear, stare at it in wonder for as long as they want. The truth God uncovers for us today: when his glory is hidden, it is most on display.

#### Communion

We are celebrating the Lord's Supper today. Scripture tells us that we need to examine ourselves before we receive the Lord's Supper so that we do not take it in a harmful manner. (1 Cor. 11:27-29) For help in preparation see page 156 in the front of the hymnal.

Visitors: Because we do not want you to receive the Lord's Supper in a harmful manner we ask that you do not come forward for the Lord's Supper today if you are not members of a WELS or ELS church. The pastor will be happy to share with you the Biblical basis for this practice.

# **Serving in Worship**

Pastor
Organist/Pianist

Mark A. Haefner Mr. William Glisson

### Hymn: 390 Jesus, Take Us to the Mountain



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Stand

#### Invocation

In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

#### Amen.

#### Confession

If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.

If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

Holy God, gracious Father,

I am sinful by nature

and have sinned against you in my thoughts, words, and actions.

I have not loved you with my whole heart;

I have not loved others as I should.

I deserve your punishment both now and forever.

But Jesus, my Savior, paid for my sins

with his innocent suffering and death.

Trusting in him, I pray: God, have mercy on me, a sinner.

Silence for meditation and reflection

Absolution CW 156

Our gracious Father in heaven has been merciful to us. He sent his only Son, Jesus Christ, who gave his life as the atoning sacrifice for the sins of the whole world. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

# Lord, Have Mercy

In peace let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.

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



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.



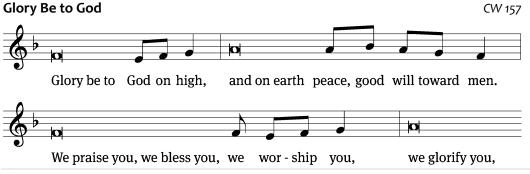
For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.



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



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#### THE WORD

### Salutation

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

# **Prayer of the Day**

Let us pray.

O God, in the glorious transfiguration of your only-begotten Son, you confirmed the mysteries of the faith by the testimony of Moses and Elijah, and in the voice that came from the bright cloud, you foreshadowed our adoption as your sons. In your mercy, make us co-heirs of glory with Jesus our King, and bring us at last to heaven; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Be seated

First Reading Exodus 34:29–35

<sup>29</sup>When Moses came down from Mount Sinai, with the two tablets of the Testimony in his hand as he came down from the mountain, Moses did not realize that the skin of his face was shining because he had been speaking with the LORD. <sup>30</sup>When Aaron and all the people of Israel saw Moses, they were amazed that the skin of his face was shining, so they were afraid to come close to him. <sup>31</sup>Moses called to them, so Aaron and all the rulers of the community returned to him, and Moses spoke to them. <sup>32</sup>Afterward, all the people of Israel came close to him, and he gave them all of the commands that the LORD had spoken to him on Mount Sinai. <sup>33</sup>When Moses was finished speaking with them, he put a veil over his face. <sup>34</sup>But whenever Moses went in before the LORD to speak with him, he would take the veil off until he came out again. Then he would come out and tell the people of Israel what he had been commanded. <sup>35</sup>Whenever the people of Israel saw Moses' face, they would see that the skin of Moses' face was shining. Then Moses would put the veil on his face again, until he went in to speak with the LORD again.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

# **Second Reading**

2 Corinthians 3:7-18

7If the ministry that brought death (which was engraved in letters on stone) came with glory, so that the Israelites could not look directly at the face of Moses because of the glory of his face (though it was fading), <sup>8</sup>how will the ministry of the spirit not be much more glorious? <sup>9</sup>For if the ministry that brought condemnation has glory, the ministry that brought righteousness has even more glory. <sup>10</sup>In fact, in this case, what was

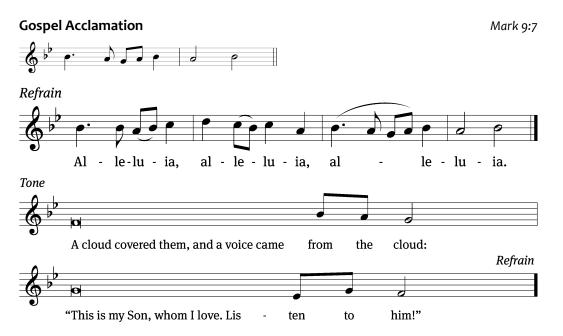
glorious is no longer very glorious, because of the greater glory of that which surpasses it. "Indeed, if what is fading away was glorious, how much more glorious is that which is permanent!

<sup>12</sup>Therefore, since we have this kind of hope, we act with great boldness. <sup>13</sup>We are not like Moses, who put a veil over his face, so that the Israelites could not continue to look at the end of the radiance, as it was fading away. <sup>14</sup>In spite of this, their minds were hardened. Yes, up to the present day, the same veil remains when the Old Testament is read. It has not been removed because it is taken away only in Christ. <sup>15</sup>Instead, to this day, whenever Moses is read, a veil lies over their hearts. <sup>16</sup>But whenever someone turns to the Lord, the veil is taken away. <sup>17</sup>Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. <sup>18</sup>But all of us who reflect the Lord's glory with an unveiled face are being transformed into his own image, from one degree of glory to another. This too is from the Lord, who is the Spirit.

The Word of the Lord.

#### Thanks be to God.

Stand



Tune: © 2021 Northwestern Publishing House. Used by permission: One License no. 713578 Gospel Luke 9:28–36

<sup>28</sup>About eight days after he said these words, Jesus took Peter, John, and James and went up on the mountain to pray. <sup>29</sup>While he was praying, the appearance of his face changed, and his clothing became dazzling white. <sup>30</sup>Just then, two men, Moses and Elijah, were talking with him! <sup>31</sup>They appeared in glory and were talking about his departure, which he was going to bring to fulfillment in Jerusalem.

<sup>32</sup>Peter and those with him were weighed down with sleep, but when they were completely awake, they saw his glory and the two men standing with him.

<sup>33</sup>As the men were leaving Jesus, Peter said to him, "Master, it is good for us to be here. Let's make three tents: one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." He did not realize what he was saying.

<sup>34</sup>While he was saying these things, a cloud came and overshadowed them. They were afraid as they went into the cloud. <sup>35</sup>Then a voice came out of the cloud, saying, "This is my Son, whom I love. Listen to him!" <sup>36</sup>After the voice had spoken, they found Jesus alone. They kept this secret and told no one in those days any of the things they had seen.

The Gospel of the Lord.

# Praise be to you, O Christ!

Be seated

# Hymn of the Day: 388 Down from the Mount of Glory



- 1 Down from the mount of glo ry came Je sus Christ, our Lord.
- 2 Trans fig ured, Christ, the low ly, stood ra-diant in the light,
- 3 Yet mark this glo ry hid den! See him the mount de-scend
- 4 Strange how his jour ney end ed! In love that is his fame
- 5 Then hail the dou-ble glo-ry of Je-sus Christ, our Lord,



Re - call the won-drous sto - ry, rich gem in sa - cred Word. light found in God-head sole - ly, for hu - man eyes bright. too and, by the Fa - ther bid - den, his will - ing foot-steps bend Lord a - gain as - cend - ed a mount—the hill shame. let the won-drous sto - ry full peace and and joy af - ford!



A - gain your faith will view him in dou - ble glo - ry here; Then came a voice from heav - en, con-firmed what here we see; to seek hu - mil - i - a - tion in deep - est depths of woe, Up - on the cross he prof - fered him - self to ag - o - ny; The ho - ly mount ac-claims him the maj - es - ty di - vine;



the due him will great - er hom - age in vour life ap - pear. the words "my Son" were giv - en seal his de - i - tv. to suf - fer deg - ra - da - tion no mind can probe or know. to his ho - lv soul he of - fered to set the guilt - v free. Mount Cal - va - ry pro - claims him Re - deem - er— yours and mine.

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#### Sermon

Stand

#### **Nicene Creed**

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father.

Through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary, and became truly human.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate. He suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who in unity with the Father and the Son
is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Be seated

# **Prayer of the Church**

Brief intercessory prayers may be added in a fitting place.

Eternal God and Father, we pray for the Church around the world. Always keep your people faithful to you. Lift the veil from our eyes and guide us to see Christ in the Word and sacraments. During all the distractions of life, help us set our sights on Jesus. Keep us safe and protect us from the tricks and treachery of the devil. Lord, in your mercy: **Hear our prayer.** 

We pray that you move us to have compassion on those stumbling in the darkness and empower us to proclaim Christ to all who have no faith. Give us courage to be unashamed of the light you have given us and to carry it willingly with joy wherever we go and whatever we do. Lord, in your mercy:

Hear our prayer.

Hear our prayers for Christians everywhere who are being persecuted because of the light they bear. Give them the strength to endure the hardships they are undergoing and give them the peace and hope of Christ as they battle on. Lord, in your mercy:

### Hear our prayer.

We pray that Christ reveals his gracious presence to all who suffer. We pray especially for our families and those in our circle of friends who are sick or in need and for everyone whose needs we hold in our hearts. Lord, in your mercy:

Hear our prayer.

Be with us, Lord, as we think about the coming days of Lent. Let your law convince us that we indeed deserve your punishment and would be lost forever without Christ. As our hearts fill with sorrow and regret, lift us up to see the Savior's sacrifice on the cross and give us hearts full of faith in him. Lord, in your mercy:

Hear our prayer.

Special Intercessions

Lord God, hear the prayers we offer and let your grace and mercy flow to us and all for whom we pray. We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord, the Light of the world.

Amen.

## Offering

## Hymn: 522 Beautiful Savior

sts. 1, 4

- Beautiful Savior, King of creation, Son of God and Son of Man! Truly I'd love thee, truly I'd serve thee, light of my soul, my joy, my crown.
- 4 Beautiful Savior, Lord of the nations, Son of God and Son of Man! Glory and honor, praise, adoration now and forevermore be thine!

Text: tr. Joseph A. Seiss, 1823–1904; Münsterisch Gesangbuch, Münster, 1677, abr., Text: Public domain

#### THE SACRAMENT

Preface CW 165

The Lord be with you.

# And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

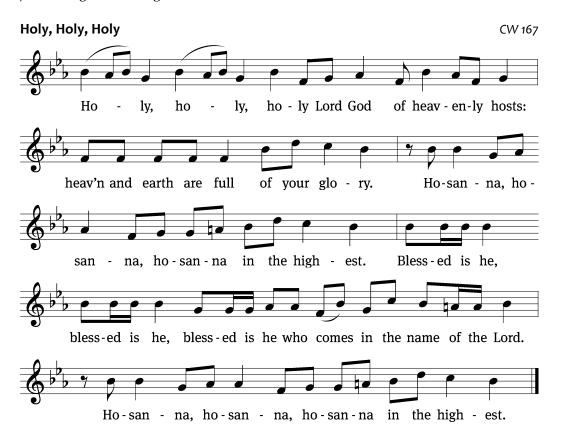
We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give him thanks and praise.

# **Proper Preface**

It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lived among us as a human being and revealed his glory as your only Son, full of grace and truth. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:



### **Prayer of Thanksgiving**

Blessed are you, O Lord of heaven and earth. We praise and thank you for sending your Son, Jesus Christ, and we remember the great acts of love through which he has ransomed us from sin, death, and the devil's power.

By his incarnation, he became one with us. By his perfect life, he fulfilled your holy will. By his innocent death, he overcame hell. By his rising from the grave, he opened heaven.

Invited by your grace and instructed by your Word, we approach your table with repentant and joyful hearts. Strengthen us through Christ's body and blood, and preserve us in the true faith until we feast with him and all his ransomed people in glory everlasting. **Amen.** 

## Lord's Prayer

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

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my + body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my + blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

### Pax Domini

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

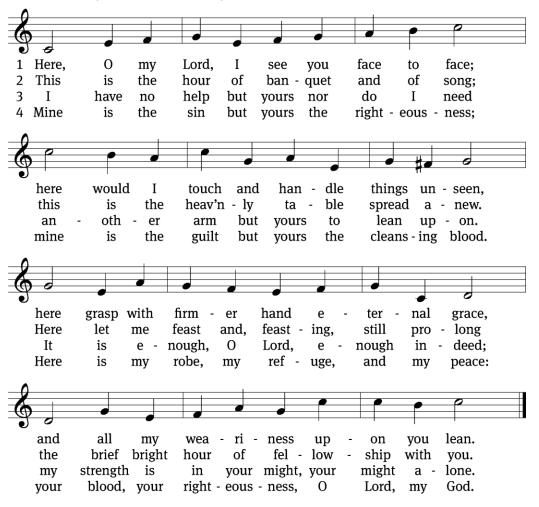
### Amen.



Be seated

#### Distribution

### Distribution Hymn: 660 Here, O My Lord, I See You Face to Face



- Too soon we rise; the vessels disappear; the feast, though not the love, is past and gone. The bread and wine remove, but you are here, nearer than ever, still my shield and sun.
- 6 Feast after feast thus comes and passes by, yet, passing, points to that glad feast above,

giving sweet foretaste of the festal joy, the Lamb's great marriage feast of bliss and love.

Text: Horatius Bonar, 1808–1889, abr., alt., Tune: Henry Lawes, 1595–1662, Text and tune: Public domain

Stand

### **Thanksgiving**

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his mercy endures forever.

#### **Proclamation**

Whenever we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

### **Post-Communion Prayer**

We give thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us with this saving gift. We pray that through it you will strengthen our faith in you and increase our love for one another. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

# Blessing

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and + give you peace.

Amen.

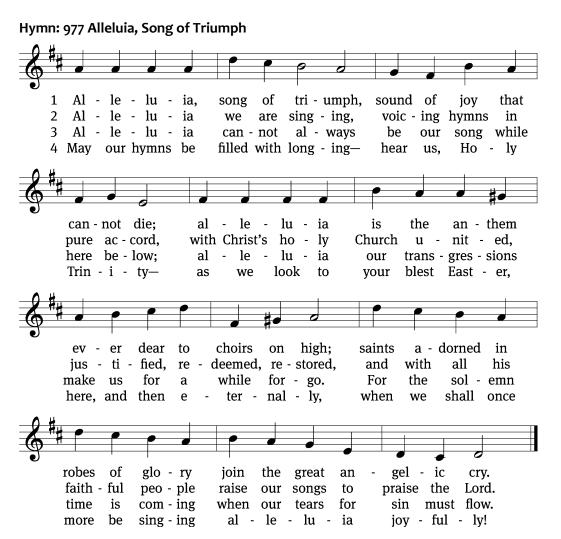
#### **FAREWELL TO ALLELUIA**

This rite may follow the Blessing on the Last Sunday after the Epiphany, The Transfiguration of Our Lord.

Brothers and sisters in Christ, when we next gather for worship, it will be Ash Wednesday, the first day of Lent. On that day we will begin our solemn journey to the Savior's cross. While the joy of faith remains undiminished throughout the year, our rejoicing during Lent is muted and quiet. For centuries, therefore, Christian churches have omitted their

most jubilant songs during this season, including the word *alleluia*, which means, "praise the Lord."

Now for a time we say farewell to *alleluia*. We do this to prepare ourselves for the quieter days of Lent. The *alleluias* will return on Easter as we gather to shout our praise to the risen Lord.



Text: tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–1866, alt.; Latin, c. 11th cent., Tune: John Goss, 1800–1880, Text and tune: Public domain

## **NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Today: 9:30 AM Sunday School and Bible Class, 10:30 AM Worship with Communion, 11:30

AM Fellowship and Choir Practice

**Elders Meet** 

Wednesday: 6:30 PM Lenten Worship and Fellowship

Saturday: 8:30 PM Men's Bible Class

Sunday: 9:30 AM Sunday School and Bible Class, 10:30 AM Worship, 11:30 Fellowship, Choir

Practice.

**Church Council Meets** 

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