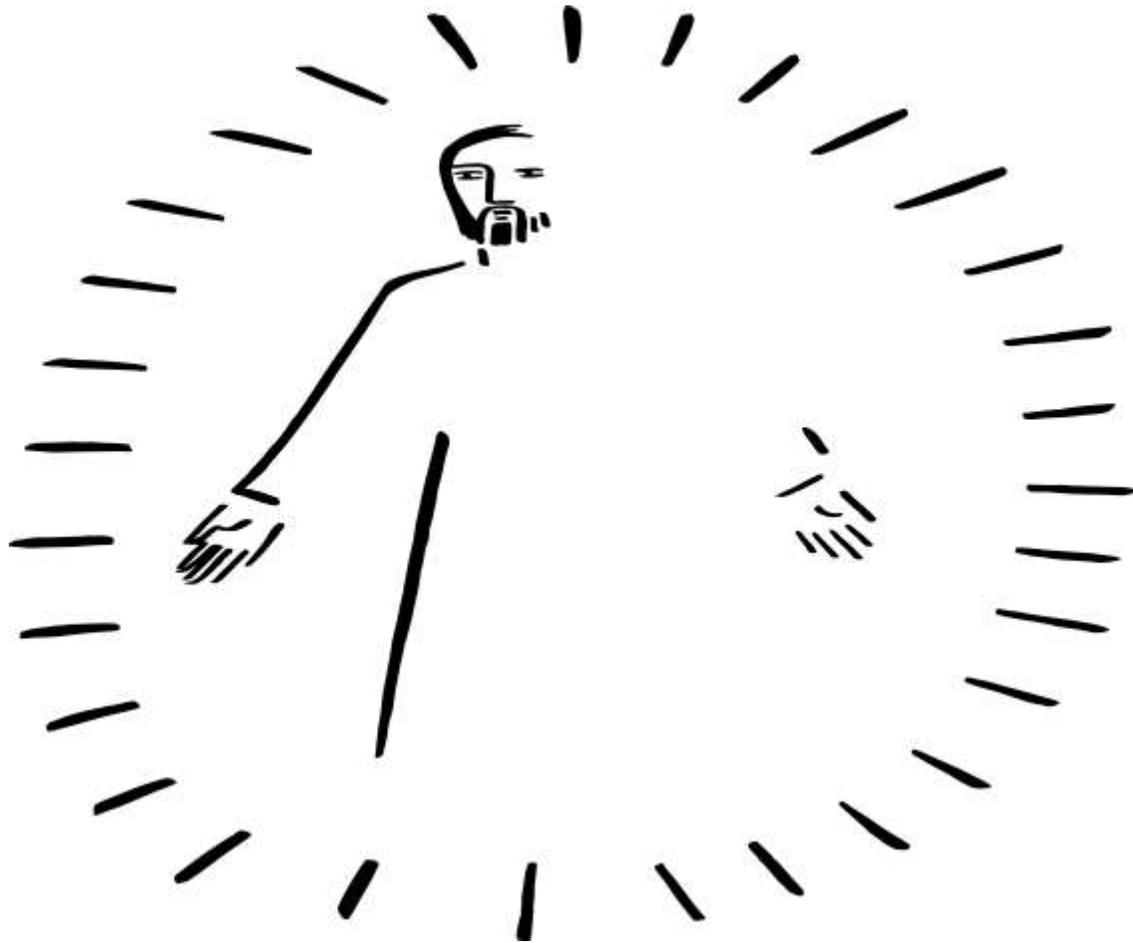




Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church

Saturday, February 25, 2017

Transfiguration of Our Lord



ALL ARE WELCOME HERE!

Christ Lutheran Church Mission Statement: *“Gospel In Action: Caring for all God’s children, we shall serve God through worship, learning, and sharing.”*

WORSHIP ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome to worship - Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church (CELC) is a congregation of the Northeastern Ohio Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA), a part of the worldwide Lutheran community. Our order for worship is printed on the following pages of this bulletin. We invite you to join us regularly for worship and in a variety of activities and opportunities in our congregational life. If you are new here, we welcome you; if you are a member of long standing, we celebrate your gifts and ministry.

New to CELC - We are happy to have you with us and we wish you a warm welcome. If you would like more information about our church and its ministries, please look for a member of the Welcoming Team by the TV after the service for information and a gift. Please take a few minutes to view the announcements displayed on the TV in the gathering area.

For those with children - We encourage you to have your children participate in worship. They learn about worship and faith by being involved. If you or your children need a break, we have a nursery room available with your supervision. If you need assistance, an usher will happily direct you to the nursery. Coloring and activity bags are available just outside the sanctuary doors.

Holy Communion - The sacrament of Holy Communion is celebrated each week at CELC. All are welcome to receive this gift of God's grace, love, and forgiveness. All who hunger to know the love of God are welcome to commune with us. The table of our Lord is now set for all those who need grace, forgiveness, strength, and wisdom for ministry and mission to the world. If you are unable to come forward, Holy Communion can be brought to your seat. If you wish to come forward to receive a blessing, you are encouraged to do so. Gluten-free crackers and grape juice are available for those with dietary needs. If you have questions about the sacrament, or if you wish to receive instruction on the Christian faith, you are invited to speak with Pastor Jeff following the service.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

GATHERING SONG: *Ring the Bell*

In the road was a bell and the bell was a sound
Of days that have come and gone
And the road ran through a little town on the hillside
Where the word of the Lord lives on

Refrain

Ring the bell (ring the bell), ring the bell (ring the bell)
Ring the bell both far and wide
You can hear it on the mountain and down across the valley
Ring the bell and go to His side

Well I followed it down from the forest to the town
In the darkness and dead of night
There were children there prepared with flowers in their hair
And the streets were lit with candlelight ***Refrain***

Now the farmer and the teacher and the barber and the preacher
How all danced and moved as one
The holy words some not spoken of a circle unbroken
And the spirit moved in everyone ***Refrain***

In the middle of the street I fell down hard upon my knees
To the pavement that shown like gold
With a shiver and a start he reached into my heart
With the kindest words I was told ***Refrain***

INVOCATION, CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, who stretches out the heavens, who sends light to the nations, who gives breath to us all.

C: Amen.

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another. Gracious God,
C: Have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

P: God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of ✝ Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.
C: Amen.

GATHERING SONG: *On Praying Ground*

As we travel through trouble in this world below
We must rest on praying ground
With strength and assurances onward we go
We're blest on praying ground

Refrain

Keep praying my friend, 'til your journey shall end
There's joy beyond the sky
Hallelujah, I cry, I've a home up on high
And we'll reach it bye and bye

The Lord of creation in Gethsemane
Knelt down on praying ground
Where he prayed down salvation for you and for me
He'll meet you on praying ground ***Refrain***

If you know of a brother whose burdened with sin
Help him out on praying ground
So the Savior can bless him and let the light in
He'll be saved on praying ground ***Refrain***

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray. O God,

C: In the transfiguration of your Son you confirmed the mysteries of the faith by the witness of Moses and Elijah, and in the voice from the bright cloud declaring Jesus your beloved Son, you foreshadowed our adoption as your children. Make us heirs with Christ of your glory, and bring us to enjoy its fullness, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

LESSON: 2 Peter 1:16-21

P: The lesson is from 2 Peter, the first chapter.

¹⁶For we did not follow cleverly devised myths when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we had been eyewitnesses of his majesty. ¹⁷For he received honor and glory from God the Father when that voice was conveyed to him by the Majestic Glory, saying, “This is my Son, my Beloved, with whom I am well pleased.” ¹⁸We ourselves heard this voice come from heaven, while we were with him on the holy mountain. ¹⁹So we have the prophetic message more fully confirmed. You will do well to be attentive to this as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts. ²⁰First of all you must understand this, that no prophecy of scripture is a matter of one’s own interpretation, ²¹because no prophecy ever came by human will, but men and women moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God

L: The word of the Lord!

C: Thanks be to God!

GOSPEL: MATTHEW 17:1-9

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 17th chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord!

¹Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain, by themselves. ²And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became dazzling white. ³Suddenly there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him. ⁴Then Peter said to Jesus, “Lord, it is good for us to be here; if you wish, I will make three dwellings here, one for you,

one for Moses, and one for Elijah.”⁵ While he was still speaking, suddenly a bright cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud a voice said, “This is my Son, the Beloved; with him I am well pleased; listen to him!”⁶ When the disciples heard this, they fell to the ground and were overcome by fear.⁷ But Jesus came and touched them, saying, “Get up and do not be afraid.”⁸ And when they looked up, they saw no one except Jesus himself alone.⁹ As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus ordered them, “Tell no one about the vision until after the Son of Man has been raised from the dead.”

P: The gospel of the Lord!

C: Praise to you, O Christ!

SERMON

Pastor Jeff Steeber

SONG OF THE DAY: *Pass Me Not*

Pass me not, O gentle Savior, hear my humble cry;
While on others thou art calling, do not pass me by.

Refrain

Savior, Savior, hear my humble cry;
While on others thou art calling, do not pass me by.

Let me at thy throne of mercy, find a sweet relief,
Kneeling there in deep contrition, help my unbelief. ***Refrain***

Trusting only in thy merit, would I seek thy face;
heal my wounded, broken spirit, save me by thy grace. ***Refrain***

Thou the spring of all my comfort, more than life to me,
Whom have I on earth beside thee, whom in heaven but thee. ***Refrain***

APOSTLES' CREED

C: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

Everyone is invited to gather around the altar for the remainder of the service. As you come forward you may place your offering in the offering plate on the stand. After the singing of "Jesus, Lamb of God" those receiving communion will be invited to kneel or stand next to the communion railing. All are welcome to receive Holy Communion. Communion is by intinction: receive the bread – dip the bread into the cup – then consume the body and blood of Christ. If you are unable to come forward, Holy Communion can be brought to you.

PRAYERS

P: Called to be a light to the nations, let us pray for God's justice, peace, and healing. God of Moses, you revealed your glory on Mount Sinai. Reveal your glory through missionaries and campus ministries. Shine your light through their acts of caring, justice, and mercy. Lord, in your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

P: God of Eve, you create humankind in your image. Cultivate in us a passion for your good creation. Transform our daily routines so that our stewardship reveals your image. Lord, in your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

P: God of David, you equip shepherds to care for your people. Where leaders rule by fear, transform their hearts with compassion and mercy. Send advocates for peace. We pray for your justice in every land. Lord, in your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

P: God of Naomi, you care for the widow. Be with all who mourn. Connect children in foster care with loving families. Protect refugees. Heal the sick and strengthen caretakers especially... Lord, in your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

P: God of Zechariah, you invite us to worship. Teach us to sing your praise in all places and in all circumstances. Embolden us to proclaim the joy of your faithfulness with our whole being. Lord, in your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

P: God of Lazarus, you resurrect the dead. Deepen our trust in the resurrection promise. Grant us peace as we grapple with what it means to die and live in you. Lord, in your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

P: Receive these prayers in the name of Christ, the light of the world, who is one with you and the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

C: Amen.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

P: As we gather around this table tonight, we remember how in the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me. Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

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.

SONG:

Jesus, Lamb of God

WP 76

Jesus, Lamb of God,
Worthy is your name;
Jesus, Lamb of God,
Worthy is your name. *Repeat*

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COMMUNION

POST COMMUNION BLESSING

P: May the body and blood of our Lord, Jesus Christ, strengthen and keep you in his grace.

C: Amen

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P: Let us pray.

C: Radiant God, with our eyes we have seen your salvation, and in this meal we have feasted on your grace. May your Word take flesh in us, that we may be your holy people, revealing your glory made known to us in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

BLESSING

P: The God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus.

C: Amen.

P: The God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: The God of all grace ☩ bless you now and forever.

C: Amen.

SENDING SONG: *The Old Gospel Ship*

I have good news to bring and that is why I sing
All my joys with you I'll share
I'm going to take a trip in that old gospel ship
And go sailing through the air

Refrain

I'm going to take a trip in that old gospel ship
I'm going far beyond the sky
I'm gonna shout and sing till the heavens ring
When I bid this world good-bye

I can scarcely wait, I know I won't be late
I'll spend my time in prayer
And when the ship comes in I'll leave this world of sin
And go sailing through the air *Refrain*

If you are ashamed of me you ought not to be
Yes, you'd better have a care
If too much fault you find you'll sure be left behind
While I'm sailing through the air *Refrain*

DISMISSAL

A: Sisters and Brothers in Christ...

C: As the Gospel in action, go in peace. Remember the Poor! Thanks be to God!

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SERMON NOTES

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