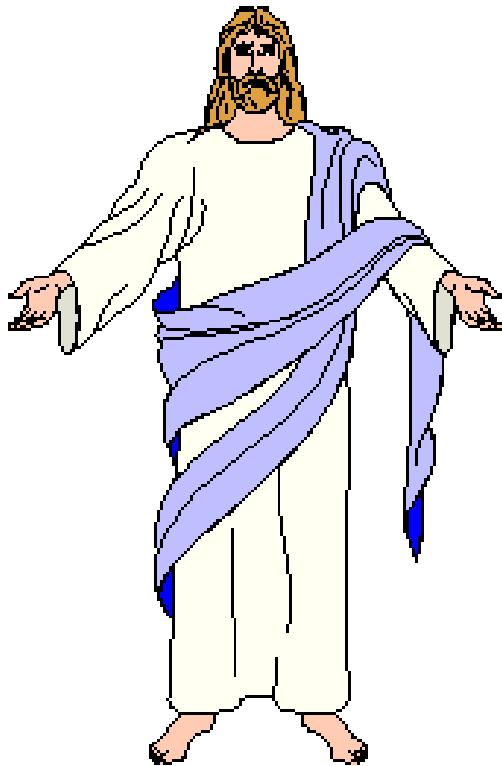


**Redeemer Lutheran Church of Leisure World and
St. Theodore of Canterbury Episcopal Church
13564 St. Andrews Drive
Seal Beach, CA 90740
(562) 598-8697**

**e-mail: redeemer_lutheran@verizon.net
website: www.redeemerlutheransealbeach.com**



***Celebration, Worship, and Communion Service
Transfiguration Sunday
February 11, 2024***

PRELUDE

played by organist

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING HYMN

LBW [Green Book] # 518

“Beautiful Savior”

GREETING

P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the refining fire of the Holy Spirit, and the peace of God, which surpasses understanding, be with you all.

C. **And also with you.**

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, the Creator of Light; the Incarnate Word of Truth; the Breathe, Wind, and Spirit sweeping over the waters.

C **Amen.**

P Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

C **God, our Rock and Refuge, we pour out our hearts before you. We have known you but have not always loved you. We have sinned against you and others. We have not always recognized the Holy Spirit dwelling in each of us. We seek your mercy and thank you for your promise to forgive us, asking that you reconcile us to you and one another, so we may proclaim your Good News to all. Amen.**

P The voice of the Lord has come to our ears and hearts, and we hear God’s saving word: the time of grace and mercy is now. In Jesus, the Kingdom of God has come near. In and through the sacrifice of + Jesus Christ, our sins are forgiven. We are God’s beloved and redeemed daughters and sons forever.

C **Amen.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

C Almighty God, the resplendent light of your truth shines from the mountaintop into our hearts. Transfigure us by your beloved Son, and illumine the world with your image, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD PROCLAIMED

INTRODUCTION

The Sundays after Epiphany began with Jesus' baptism and end with three disciples' vision of his transfiguration. In Mark's story of Jesus' baptism, apparently only Jesus sees the Spirit descending and hears the words from heaven. But now Jesus' three closest friends hear the same words naming him God's Beloved. As believers, Paul writes, we are enabled to see the God-light in Jesus' face, because the same God who created light in the first place has shone in our hearts to give us that vision. The light of God's glory in Jesus has enlightened us through baptism and shines in us also for others to see.

The First Lesson is from 2 Kings chapter 2 verses 1-12

Today's reading centers on the transfer of power and authority from the prophet Elijah to Elisha. Their travels, which retrace the path of Joshua back to Moab (the place where Moses died) and the parting of the waters, demonstrate that Elisha and Elijah are legitimate successors of the great prophet Moses.

¹Now when the LORD was about to take Elijah up to heaven by a whirlwind, Elijah and Elisha were on their way from Gilgal. ²Elijah 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. ³The 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."

⁴Elijah 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. ⁵The 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."

⁶Then 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. ⁷Fifty men of the company of prophets also went, and stood at some distance from them, as they both were standing by the Jordan. ⁸Then 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.

⁹When 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." ¹⁰He 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." ¹¹As 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. ¹²Elisha 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.

The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God

PSALM: Psalm 50:1-6

Out of Zion, perfect in beauty, God shines forth in glory. (Ps. 50:2)

- ¹The mighty one, God the LORD, has spoken;
calling the earth from the rising of the sun to its setting.
- ²Out of Zion, perfect in its beauty,
God shines forth in glory.
- ³Our God will come and will not keep silence;
with a consuming flame before, and round about a raging storm.
- ⁴God calls the heavens and the earth from above
to witness the judgment of the people.
- ⁵"Gather before me my loyal followers,
those who have made a covenant with me
and sealed it with sacrifice."
- ⁶The heavens declare the rightness of God's cause,
for it is God who is judge.

The Second Lesson is from 2 Corinthians chapter 4 verses 3-6

The spotlight of Christian ministry is not on the people who carry out ministry but on the Lord Jesus Christ. Just as God made light shine at creation, God makes the light of Jesus Christ shine in our lives through Christian ministry.

³Even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. ⁴In 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. ⁵For we do not proclaim ourselves; we proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and ourselves as your slaves for Jesus' sake. ⁶For 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.

The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God

Gospel Acclamation

1 Time Before the Gospel

1 Time after the Gospel

The Gospel Lesson is from Mark chapter 9 verses 2-9

Mark's gospel presents the transfiguration as a preview of what would become apparent to Jesus' followers after he rose from the dead. Confused disciples are given a vision of God's glory manifest in the beloved Son.

²Six 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, ³and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no one on earth could bleach them. ⁴And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses, who were talking with Jesus. ⁵Then 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." ⁶He did not know what to say, for they were terrified. ⁷Then a cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud there came a voice, "This is my Son, the Beloved listen to him!" ⁸Suddenly when they looked around, they saw no one with them anymore, but only Jesus.

⁹As 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.

L The Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ

SERMON

Bishop Murray Finck

"They Saw No One But Jesus"

CHOIR ANTHEM

"Christ, Be Our Light"

APOSTLES' CREED

L I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again 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.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

L ... God of grace,

C receive our prayer.

OFFERTORY

“I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light”

OFFERING PRAYER

P Blessed are you, Holy Lord God. All good things come from you. In this bread and in this cup you open heaven to us as you meet us at this Holy Table. Here we receive your forgiveness and love, and the call to follow your Son, Jesus, in whose name we pray.

C Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

THE LORD'S PRAYER

LBW [Green Book] Page 71

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P At Jesus' table, heaven and earth are joined as one. Come and see. All are welcome.

Communion Distribution (The Congregation is invited to come forward by the ushers to receive Communion. If you are unable to come to the altar, Communion will be brought to you in the pew. All baptized and believing Christians are invited to the table. Anyone with any questions can speak to the Pastor. The inside circle of glasses contains grape juice.)

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

C Giver of every gift, **Christ's body is our heavenly food. Raise us up to new life by your mercy and love that we might give you the glory, now and forever. Amen.**

BLESSING

P God who names us, Christ who claims us, and the Holy Spirit who dwells in us, + bless us and remain with us always.

C **Amen.**

CLOSING HYMN

LBW [Green Book] # 315

“Love Divine, All Loves Excelling”

DISMISSAL

P Let us go in peace in God's transfiguring presence and light. We are God's beloved.

C **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

played by organist

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Interim Pastor: Bishop Murray Finck

Organist: Sharon Heck

Flowers are given by: *Betty Lucero.*

Elaine Lee.

THOSE WHO SERVE TODAY

<i>President:</i>	Bishop Murray Finck
<i>Communion Assistant</i>	Carmen Leslie
<i>Reader / Prayer Leader:</i>	Kay Pushman
<i>Financial Team:</i>	Kay Pushman and Doris Weinert

THIS WEEK

Wednesday: 10:30 a.m. Ash Wednesday Holy Communion and
Imposition of Ashes Service

Thursday: 2:30 p.m. Council Meeting

Sunday: 10:30 a.m. Sanctuary Communion Service

Redeemer Finance: February Offering through February 4, 2024

Budgeted Monthly Expense	\$7,307.52
Offering	<u>\$1,809.00</u>
Needed to meet expenses	\$5,498.52

CHURCH COUNCIL

President Kay Pushman, **Vice-President** Wendy Alfageme, **Secretary**
Nancy Anderson, **Treasurer** Phyllis Mackey, **Finance Chair** Doris
Weinert

Members at Large, Sandy Langdale, Carmen Leslie, Betty Lucero,
Sylvia Makus, and Michael Vanvales

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Jean, Kathy, Wendy, Beverly, Dena, Nancy, Evelyn, Shirlene, Jerry, Carol, Mickey, Evelyn, Gloria, Christa, Alice, Barbara, Cedric, Lucy, Karen, Kelly, Raymond, Dick, Marilyn, Brian, Carl, Jessica, Carol, Rose, Ken, Sandra, Elaine, Carmen, Barbara, Betty, Nancy, Phyllis, Sylvia, Gil, Flo, Eileen, Erich, Leslie, Linda, Ronnie, Kay, Violet, Linda, Ron, Collette, Lisa, Patty, Barbara, Joan, Dee, Susan, Anita, Norma, Lathy, Juanita, Clarence, Debbie, Joan, Anne, Doris, Linda, Bruce, Alma, Martha, Marianne, Robert, Laura, Jim, Loretta, Ray, Patty, Delrie, Bill, Betty, Lorna, M. Teresa, Joan, Mike, Frankie, Donna, Ernie, Eileen, Darlene, Sharon, Danota, Lynne, Ethan, Kurt, Brinly, McCall, Kathy, Nayleen, Nicole, Donald, Maria, Andy, Owen, Tom, Anastasia, Claire, Fran, Chris, Kyle, Michele, Bill, Wes, Sam, Kolt, Maeve, Brigid, Joanna, Dale, Karla, Sands, Gloria, Tom, Rosalia, Wendy, and Rhoda.

Please contact the church to add people to the prayer list.

Please pray for our Bishop David Nagler, (ELCA) and Bishop John Taylor (ECUSA), the victims of the Ukrainian/Russian and Israel/Hamas conflicts, and victims and families of all violence and natural disasters.

Gracious God, none who trust in your Son can be separated from your love. Give to those who live alone peace and contentment in their solitude, hope and fulfillment in their love of you, and joy and companionship in their relations with others; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Announcements

- ‡ Welcome everyone this morning, and especially to our guests and visitors. Everyone is invited down to the Fellowship Hall after Service for our coffee, treats, and fellowship (we have tea, too!).
- ‡ **Ash Wednesday** is February 14. We will be holding a Holy Communion and Imposition of Ashes Service at 10:30 a.m. in the Sanctuary. We will also be starting our annual Lenten Devotions on Wednesday, February 21 at 4:00 p.m. It will include Service, Study, and a time for fellowship during a meal. Come and prepare for a fulfilling Lent!
- ‡ If you are interested in receiving the weekly newsletter, by email, from the Pacifica Synod, so you know what is happening please let us know and we will help you sign up for it.
- ‡ We are again trying to plan an acceptance of new members! Bishop Finck has agreed to accept new members for us so please speak to him. We need to plan a date so please pick up a member's form from the entryway and return it as soon as possible.
- ‡ At this time, we are encouraging people to consider wearing a mask again, especially in Church, due to the spike in Covid-19 cases. Initial symptoms are headache and fever. Please consult with your doctor if you are experiencing these or other symptoms. We continue to have masks available in the entryway for your use. We need to join together to keep everyone safe and healthy.
- ‡ Please take a moment and fill out the attendance slip found in the rack in the pews. Please place it in the offertory plate. Thank you!
- ‡ The NEW Flower Chart is available for sign-ups in the entryway. One bouquet is \$15.00. Both are \$30.00. Please include any dedication for your flower request when signing up or include a note beforehand if there is a dedication.
- ‡ Printed copies of our current newsletter are available in the entryway. It is online on our website at: www.redeemersealbeach.com. It is sent out via email, if we have your email address. If you are not receiving it, please let us know so we can confirm your address.