

HOLY COMMUNION

Reception of New Members



Transfiguration of Our Lord
February 22, 2009 + 8:30 & 11:00 a.m.

Central - in the heart of the city, welcomes all people to celebrate, discover and share the love of Christ

We are sisters and brothers of Christ the son

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 son. 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 Holy Spirit gathers
us in unity
on the first day
of the week, the day of
Christ's resurrection*

*This song of the angels from
Christmas continues to
announce the good news of
God's presence with us.*

GATHERING

PRELUDE

Triptych on the tune "Deo Gracias"

Mark Sedio

Introduction - Meditation - Réjouissance

The carillon calls the assembly to worship.

At the sound of the carillon, the assembly stands and faces the entrance.

OPENING HYMN

"Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies"

(hymn) 553

stanza 2 in harmony

GREETING

P The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light!

Grace to you, and peace from God who shines among us.

All And also with you.

GLORY TO GOD



Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



Lord God, heav-en-ly King, al-might-y God and Fa-ther, we



wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo-ry.

Lord Je-sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God,
 you take a-way the sin of the world: have mer-cy on us;
 you are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther: re-ceive our prayer.
 For you a-lone are the Ho-ly One, you a-lone are the Lord,
 you a-lone are the Most High, Je-sus Christ, with the Ho-ly Spir-it,
 in the glo-ry of God the Fa-ther. A - men.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P ...one God, now and forever.

A Amen.

WORD

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Children are invited to come forward; parents are welcome to come with their children.

Anthem by the Central Choristers (11:00)

"Nimemwona Bwana"

traditional Tanzanian

We have seen the Lord, and he looks good.

FIRST READING

Elijah taken up to heaven

2 Kings 2:1-12

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.

*God speaks to us in
 scripture reading,
 preaching,
 and song*

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.

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.

AI Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING *God's light seen in Christ* 2 Corinthians 4:3-6

Paul writes:

Even 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.

AI Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL PROCESSION

"Jesus on the Mountain Peak"

The assembly stands to face the Gospel as it is proclaimed in the midst of the congregation.

(hymn) 317
stanzas 1 - 3

GOSPEL *Christ revealed as God's beloved Son* Mark 9:2-9

The holy gospel according to Mark.

AI Glory to you, O Lord.

Six 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 any more, 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.

The gospel of the Lord.

AI Praise to you, O Christ.

GOSPEL PROCESSION

"Jesus on the Mountain Peak"

(hymn) 317
stanza 4

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 out of darkness at creation, God makes the light of Jesus Christ shine in our lives through Christian ministry.

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.



SERMON

Pastor Rick Nelson

“A Glimpse Is Enough”
silence for reflection

HYMN OF THE DAY

(hymn) 316

“Oh, Wondrous Image, Vision Fair”

stanza 1 - all; 2 - men; 3 - choir; 4 - women; 5 - all
(11:00) *As the hymn is sung, new members are presented at the altar rail.*

*ELW uses an ecumenical form
of the Nicene Creed*

NICENE CREED

A With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

Al 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 with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic 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.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

A Rejoicing that the grace of God has been revealed in the birth of Jesus Christ, the light of the world, let us pray for the church, those in need, and all of God’s creation.

after each petition:

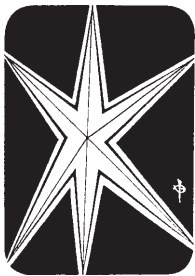
Lord in your mercy,

Al hear our prayer.

P Trusting in your mercy, O saving God, we commend to you all for whom we pray, through the one born among us, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Al Amen.

God feeds us
with the presence
of Jesus Christ



The music and text for this anthem were commissioned by the Downtown Minneapolis Churches for their semi-annual Choral Festival, February 9, 2003. It will be performed again at this year's Choral Festival in Central's Sanctuary this afternoon at 3 p.m.

MEAL

RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS (11:00)

The assembly may welcome the new members with applause.

PEACE

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

AD **And also with you.**

The assembly is invited to share God's peace with one another.

(11:00) New members return to their places.

GATHERING OF GIFTS

While the collection is received lay ministers prepare the table.

The assembly stands as the procession reaches the chancel.

Antem

"Beautiful Savior" (8:30)

arr. F. Melius Christiansen

*Fair are the meadows, fairer the woodlands,
robed in flowers of blooming spring.*

Jesus is fairer, Jesus is purer.

He makes our sorrowing spirit sing.

*Beautiful Savior, Lord of the nations,
Son of God and Son of man.*

*Glory and honor, praise adoration,
now and forevermore be thine.*

"lumen de lumine" (11:00)

Gerald Near

lumen de lumine (light from light)

light from light behold and be radiant.

From the dwelling place of light, summoned from its velvet home.

Rising shines the Star in night, light no dark can overcome.

Rise, O Star, and clear our eyes; World and need lie dim concealed;

Rend the dark of inward skies; Shine and all shall be revealed.

Shine on us, O Glorious Christ, light from light, and bright with grace;

Radiant now, your people rise glory shining from each face.

now we shall radiant be like stars forever

lumen de lumine

ever and ever light from light. (text: Susan Palo Cherwien)

Offertory Prayer

A Let us pray together:

AD **Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things.**

**Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts:
our selves, our time, and our possessions.**

**Use us, and what we have gathered, in feeding the world with
your love, through the one who gave himself for us,
Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING

P The Lord be with you.

AD **And also with you.**

P Lift up your hearts.

AD **We lift them to the Lord.**

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

AD **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**



All are invited to receive these gifts of God.

Grape juice and gluten-free bread are available upon request.

Children are welcome to receive communion or a blessing.

Communion at this service is served standing by individual chalices. Please follow the direction of the ushers to a communion station. You are invited to kneel following communion if you desire.

P It is indeed right, our duty and our joy ... join their unending hymn:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,
heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.
Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Eucharistic Prayer

Lord's Prayer (1975)

A Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done, on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.

Breaking of the Bread and Invitation to the Table

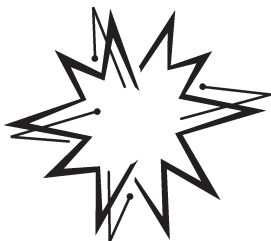
P See, hear, come and dine!
The reign of heaven has come near!

Communion

"Lamb of God" (8:30)

Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on
us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the
sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

This popular song from Kenya was arranged by William Obaga, a student at Luther Seminary in St. Paul and one of the presenters at the Global Mission Forum this morning.



God blesses and sends us
in mission to the world

In much of Christendom, today marks the last time "Alleluias" are sung in worship until we celebrate the Resurrection of Our Lord on Easter morning. This hymn marks this tradition.

"Dayspring of Eternity" (8:30)

J. A. Freylinghausen

*Dayspring of eternity, brightness of the Father's glory.
Dawn on us that we may see clouds and darkness flee before thee.
Drive far away with conquering might, all our night.
Let thy grace, like morning dew, fall on hearts in thee confiding:
Thy sweet comfort, ever new, fill our souls with strength abiding.
And thy quickening eyes behold thy dear fold.
Light us to the golden shore, O thou rising sun of morning.
Lead where tears shall flow no more, where all sighs to song are turning,
Where thy glory sheds away perfect day.*

"Hakuna Mungu" (11:00)

William Obaga

*There is no other God like you O Lord, my God.
I say thank you Lord, O My God.
You are my refuge, O Lord, my God.
I say thank you Lord, O My God.
You are alpha and Omega, O Lord, my God.
I say thank you Lord, O My God.*

Table Blessing and Prayer after Communion

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

A Amen.

A God of abundance,
you have fed us with the presence of Christ.
Use us as beacons of light and bearers of Christ's love
for the sake of the whole world. In Jesus' name we pray.

A Amen.

SENDING

BLESSING

P May the love of Jesus Christ,
the light of the world,
fill your hearts and illumine your path.

Almighty God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit,
bless you now and forever.

A Amen.

RECESSIONAL HYMN

(hymn) 318

"Alleluia, Song of Gladness"
(11:00) The new members join in the recessional
to be greeted by the assembly as they depart.

DISMISSAL

Please face the entrance for the dismissal.

A Go in peace. Your light has come.

A Thanks be to God.

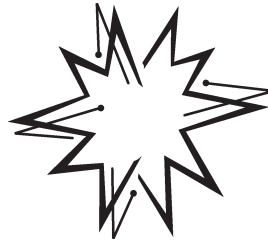
The carillon sends the assembly into mission.

POSTLUDE

"Litanies"

Jehan Alain

SERVING TODAY



Pastor Kristen Jacobson *presiding*
Pastor Rick Nelson *preaching*
David West *assisting minister*
Mark Sedio *director of music/organist*
Jane Lien *associate musician*

Debra Thelen, Amanda Highben,
Karin Lilleodden *readers, 8:30*
Männerchor *choir, 8:30*
Shirley Dahl *crucifer, 8:30*

Debra Thelen, Lois Wolff,
Christy James *readers, 11:00*
Central Choir *choir, 11:00*
Central Choristers *choir, 11:00*
Sally Messner *director*
Jody Halverson *crucifer, 11:00*

Richard Stegall *sacristan*
Harold Clough *radio announcer*
David Molvik *sound operator*
Donald Moe, Sara Gunsch *lead ushers*

Dick & Linda Shinofield,
Joyce Anderson, Ann Oyen,
David Deonarine,
Leon & Deanne Tibben,
Bruce Bergeson, Rick Johnston,
Barb Hoernemann, Kris Stedje,
Judy Berge *communion ministers*

Pastor D. Foy Christopherson,
Harris & Maryon Lee,
Dick & Linda Shinofield *hosts and greeters*

David Nelson, Christopher Haug,
Judy Bogard, Dave West,
Richard Stegall *seasonal worship team*



We welcome the following New Members today into Central's family:

Julie Amirayan
Krista Anderson and Anthony Buesing
Thomas Anderson III
Robert Blair
Erick Brunsvold
Farrah Fossum
Sara Glover
Eric Goodrich
Olga Listoe
Larry and Sue Ristey
Jared Rud
Tom Stapel
Kristi Strand
Susan Yarno



Altar flowers today are given by the Floral Guild. If you wish to give flowers, contact Gloria Hahn at 952.545-6109.

Sunday worship is broadcast locally on WDGY (formerly WMIN) 740 AM at 11 a.m.; or listen online from anywhere at wdgyradio.com. To sponsor a Sunday morning radio broadcast or refreshments in honor or memory of a loved one or a special occasion, contact Julie Pinomaki at 612.767-9212.

WORSHIP LIFE

Farewell to Alleluia



Alleluia. It is our worship word. It is a gift word; a thanksgiving word. It is our Easter word. It is God's Easter word. It is a celebration word; a praise word. It means Praise God! Deo Gratia! Allelu Yahweh! Yahoo Yahweh!

Alleluia. It is a word we don't deserve. It is a word we can use only because of what God has done for us. And so, that we might not forget, we banish this remarkable proclamation from our lips for a time. We remember the time when we could not sing Alleluia; - when we were without hope; without joy. And we remember the times when we could do nothing but sing Alleluia; when we were amazed, dumb-founded, fumbling over ourselves in bewilderment: - when God painted a rainbow after a flood and we survived! Alleluia! - when God made good on the promises to Sarah! Alleluia! - when God made a covenant with us! Alleluia! - when God lead us into a promised land! Alleluia! - when God raised up dry bones to life! Alleluia! - when God was there in the fiery furnace! Alleluia! - when God was there, even when we strayed! Alleluia! - when God delivered us from the bonds of slavery! Alleluia! - when God delivered us from the Red Sea and the wilderness! Alleluia! - when God delivered us from Goliath and from the den of lions! Alleluia! - when God sent the prophets, holy men and holy women, to speak of his love, to call us home, and to promise us a savior! Alleluia! - when God sent not just a savior but a beloved Son! Alleluia! - when God walked with us, shared our joys and our sorrows, taught us to forgive each other, showed us how to love, showed us how to serve each other, left his supper, gave his life! Alleluia! - when God raised him to live and promises to raise us too! Alleluia! - when God breathed the breath of the Spirit into us! Alleluia!

WELCOME!



Everyone is welcome. As a community of the people of God, the members of Central Lutheran Church are called to welcome all people regardless of age, economic status, ethnic background, gender, physical or mental ability, race or sexual orientation. We affirm that in Christ “there is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male or female” (Galatians 3:28). Christ has made us one.

Guests are welcome. We are pleased you are worshiping with us today. We invite guests to complete the “Welcome to Central” card found in the pew racks and leave it with an usher or place it in the offering plate. If you would like more information about Central, please speak to a staff member or call the church at 612-870-4416.

Children are welcome at all services. Worship bulletins for children and activity bags are available at Sanctuary entrances. If you would prefer to use Central’s nursery (available for children ages four and younger), you will find it on the second floor of the Education Building. An usher will be glad to assist you.

Welcome to the Lord’s Table. All are welcome at the Lord’s Table. Please follow the guidance of the ushers and instructions in the order of service. During communion, ministers will bring bread and wine to persons in designated access seating areas. If you are not in a designated access seating area and desire to commune where you are seated, please notify an usher who will direct communion ministers to come and serve you. Communion may be received in one kind (only bread or only wine) from any station if wheat bread or alcohol presents a health concern. Gluten-free breads and alcohol-free wine are available by request at most liturgies from most communion stations.

We envision becoming a thriving, vibrant model of urban Lutheran ministry for the 21st century. This lofty vision requires us to ask each day if our goals for worship, learning, and service are clearly reaching a diverse neighborhood and city in language and action that reflect the world as well as our heritage.



Large print service folders,
assisted listening devices, and access seating
are available to aid your participation in worship.
Please inquire with an usher.





**Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America**

God's work. Our hands.

Grace abounds.

CENTRAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
*in the heart of the city, welcomes all people
to celebrate, discover and share the love of Christ*
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Office – 612.870-4416 • Infoline – 612.767-9101 • www.centralmpls.org

