

ST. PAUL EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

**– CHURCH OF THE LUTHERAN CONFESSION –
LAKEWOOD, COLORADO**



**LAST SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY
THE TRANSFIGURATION OF OUR LORD
FEBRUARY 23, 2020**

ST. PAUL EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Church of the Lutheran Confession (CLC)

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Thomas Schuetze, pastor (303-428-5524)

Ed Chiappetti, president – Mike Sprengeler, SS Superintendent

ORDER OF WORSHIP: SERVICE OF THE WORD

(printed on liturgy insert inside front cover of maroon hymnal)

- ◆ Pre-Service Devotion: Psalm 45 (pew bible, p.503)
- ◆ The Hymns: 873, 571, 414, 921
- ◆ Scripture Lessons: Exodus 24:12,15-18; 2 Peter 1:16-21
- ◆ Psalm of the Day: From Psalm 148

Sermon Text – Matthew 17:1-9

IT'S GOOD FOR YOU TO SEE JESUS' GLORY ON THE TRANSFIGURATION MOUNTAIN

1. It prepares you for Lent.
2. It prepares you for life in the world.

- ◆ Offering of Our Hearts and Gifts
- ◆ Prayer & the Lord's Prayer
- ◆ Benediction & Closing Hymn (921)

† † †

A WARM WELCOME IN CHRIST TO OUR WORSHIP GUESTS. We are glad for the opportunity to share with you the Gospel of forgiveness through Jesus! Please introduce yourself to the pastor and sign our guest book. We invite you to come worship with us again. If you would like to know more about St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church and our national organization, the Church of the Lutheran Confession, please speak with the pastor. He would be happy to call on you to share our confession and mission with you.

TODAY'S SCRIPTURES

First Lesson – Exodus 24:12,15-18

12 The LORD said to Moses, "Come up to me on the mountain and stay here, and I will give you the tablets of stone, with the law and commands I have written for their instruction." 15 When Moses went up on the mountain, the cloud covered it, 16 and the glory of the LORD settled on Mount Sinai. For six days the cloud covered the mountain, and on the seventh day the LORD called to Moses from within the cloud. 17 To the Israelites the glory of the LORD looked like a consuming fire on top of the mountain. 18 Then Moses entered the cloud as he went on up the mountain. And he stayed on the mountain forty days and forty nights.

Psalm of the Day – From Psalm 148

- P Praise the LORD from the heavens:
C **Praise him in the heights above.**
P Praise him, all his angels:
C **Praise him, all his heavenly hosts.**
P Praise him, sun and moon:
C **Praise him, all you shining stars.**
P Praise the LORD from the earth, lightning and hail:
C **Snow and clouds, stormy winds that do his bidding.**
P You mountains and all hills, fruit trees and all cedars:
C **Wild animals and all cattle, small creatures and flying birds.**
P Kings of the earth and all rulers on earth:
C **Young men and maidens, old men and children.**
P Let them praise the name of the LORD:
C **For his splendor is above the earth and the heavens.**

Second Lesson – 2 Peter 1:16-21

16 We did not follow cleverly invented stories when we told you about the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we were eyewitnesses of his majesty. 17 For he received honor and glory from God the Father when the voice came to him from the Majestic Glory, saying, "This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased." 18 We ourselves heard this voice that came from heaven when we were with him on the sacred mountain. 19 And we have the word of the prophets made more certain, and you will do well to pay attention to it, as to a light shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts. 20 Above all, you must understand that no prophecy of Scripture came about by the prophet's own interpretation. 21 For prophecy never had its origin in the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.

Sermon Text – Matthew 17:1-9

1 After six days Jesus took with him Peter, James and John the brother of James, and led them up a high mountain by themselves. 2 There he was transfigured before them. His face shone like the sun, and his clothes became as white as the light. 3 Just then there appeared before them Moses and Elijah, talking with Jesus. 4 Peter said to Jesus, "Lord, it is good for us to be here. If you wish, I will put up three shelters—one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah." 5 While he was still speaking, a bright cloud enveloped them, and a voice from the cloud said, "This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased. Listen to him!" 6 When the disciples heard this, they fell facedown to the ground, terrified. 7 But Jesus came and touched them. "Get up," he said. "Don't be afraid." 8 When they looked up, they saw no one except Jesus. 9 As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus instructed them, "Don't tell anyone what you have seen, until the Son of Man has been raised from the dead."

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today (2/23) 9:30 am Worship Service
10:45 am Sunday School (The Prophet Elijah, OT 45)
10:45 am Bible Class
Wed 7:00 pm Ash Wednesday Worship
Sun (3/1) 9:30 am Worship Service with Holy Communion
10:45 am Sunday School (Elijah & the Prophets of Baal, OT 46)
10:45 am Bible Class

SERVING US AT GOD'S HOUSE TODAY

- Organist: Ruth Greening
- Ushers: Larry Reed, Mike Sprengeler
- Elder: Ed Chiappetti

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Wed. Lenten Services: Feb.26; Mar.4,11,18,25; Apr.1, 7:00 pm
- Palm Sunday Worship: April 5, 9:30 am (followed by breakfast served by the men)
- Maundy Thursday Communion Service: April 9, 7:00 pm
- Good Friday Worship: April 10, 7:00 pm
- Easter Sunday Worship: April 12, 9:30 am

UPCOMING CHOIR PRACTICES: Sunday, March 15,22,29, 8:30 am
Sunday, April 5,12, 8:30 am

HEALTH UPDATES: Zachary Ruegge is recovering from emergency appendicitis surgery, performed last Sunday. We thank the Lord that he is doing well. ++ Fred Newton is under hospice care at home, and is very weak. It appears the time for the Lord to call him home is drawing near. ++ Gene Wamboldt was hospitalized at University of Colorado Hospital a week ago Friday. He has since been moved to St. Anthony's Hospital in Lakewood. He has been suffering for some time from a variety of medical ailments, including leukemia and diabetes. ++ *"Those who hope in the LORD will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint" (Isaiah 40:31).*

THE LATEST ISSUE OF THE *DAILY REST DEVOTIONAL* arrived in the mail last week. St Paul subscribers will find their copy in their church mailbox. The devotional features one-page devotions authored by CLC pastors for each day of the coming quarter, with "Weekend Rest Journals" for Saturday and Sunday. If you aren't a subscriber and would like to be, speak with pastor. Subscription rate: \$15 for four quarterly issues.

MARCH BIRTHDAY (ANNIVERSARY) BLESSINGS TO . . .

Velma Clark, Lance Clark,
Norman Ross, (David & Candy Wamboldt,)

**MIDWEEK LENTEN
SERVICE SCHEDULE**



“OUR BLESSED SAVIOR SEVEN TIMES SPOKE”

	<u>Service Theme</u>	<u>Word from the Cross</u>	<u>Speaker</u>
Feb 26	The Forgiving Savior	Luke 23:32-34a	T. Schuetze
Mar 4	The Assuring Savior	Luke 23:39-43	C. Seybt
Mar 11	The Caring Savior	John 19:26-27	T. Wheaton
Mar 18	The Forsaken Savior	Matthew 27:45-46	C. Seybt
Mar 25	The Dying Savior	Luke 23:46	T. Wheaton
Apr 1	The Thirsting Savior	John 19:28	T. Schuetze
Apr 10	The Triumphant Savior	John 19:30	T. Schuetze

ANNOUNCEMENT: “Holy Trinity Ev. Lutheran Church in South Carolina is hosting a youth camp August 13-15 for kids in grades 3-9. We also have an opportunity for kids in grades 10 and higher to apply for junior counselor positions as well. Please help us spread the word to members that have children in these age groups. If you need more information, please see our website www.christexplorerscamp.com, follow us on Facebook, or contact Sara Kloke at runsforfun@aol.com or Karen Howell at kdhowell32@gmail.com” (from David Pfeiffer, pastor of Holy Trinity Ev. Lutheran Church, West Columbia, SC).

CBP ESTIMATE: Last Sunday the voters of St. Paul set our Cooperative Budget Plan estimate for the new year at _____ (this is the amount we plan to contribute as a congregation during 2020 to subsidize ILC, to support our synod’s mission program, and to fund administration costs, the operation of the CLC Book House and other projects of the Board of Education and Publications).

Let’s do our best to meet our pledge this year! *Reminder: only offerings that you specially designate for the CBP (top right corner of the St. Paul offering envelope) will be used to help us meet our goal of _____ for the year.*

\$ _____	General Fund	CBP	\$ _____
\$ _____	Building Fund	Mission	\$ _____
		ILC Building	\$ _____
		ILC SAF	\$ _____
		Other	\$ _____
Saint Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church			
THIS SIDE FOR OURSELVES		THIS SIDE FOR OTHERS	
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DAILY BIBLE READINGS FOR HOME DEVOTIONS
FEBRUARY 24-29

Mon Exodus 24:12,15-18 Every Bible student knows that God spoke with Moses on Mount Sinai and impressed every word on his mind and heart so that he could repeat it to the Israelites (24:1-4). But since humans are prone to forget, God is about to put it into writing on hard-copy with no mistakes or misprints possible. When God interfaces with mortals, it's an epic event, and we shudder even when reading the details (16-17). Moses interfaced with God for forty days and nights, a long-enough time for any mortal (18).

Tues Matthew 17:1-9 A week had passed since Jesus said, "*The Son of Man will come in the glory of His Father*" (16:27) to prepare Peter, James, and John for His transfiguration, when they saw some of God's glory shining in Jesus' face and radiating through His clothes (2). Peter's notion didn't go very far, for the Father laid out a better way to honor Jesus: Listen to His Word! (5), and save the publicity for His resurrection (9). Hallelujah!

Wed 2 Peter 1:16-21 Peter would never forget what he had seen and heard (16-18), but God wants us check our memory against His written Word (the light that shines in the dark places of our hearts). God's prophetic Word stands superior to human perceptivity (20), just as the Holy Spirit stands superior to humans speaking God's Word. We are staying tuned.

Thurs Psalm 148 deserves careful, slow absorption in order to enjoy the afterglow of Jesus' transfiguration—as do angels, the solar system (1-6), Earth's creatures, climate (7-10), and humanity from top to bottom (11-12). Let them all praise the Name of the Lord, for He has choreographed the trumpet section of His orchestra to blow their horns in His praise. Amen!

Fri Luke 9:28-36 adds some valuable information to Matthew's account, for Luke reveals the subject which Moses and Elijah had on their minds: Jesus' *decease which He was about to accomplish in Jerusalem*. What could be more important both in heaven and on Earth than Jesus' sacrifice which brought a successful completion of all sacrifices forever! The new era of God's grace in Christ Jesus for sin-suffering humanity was about to dawn.

Sat Acts 8:9-25 Christians make mistakes; Simon the ex-sorcerer made a big one when he focused on miracles too much; he became unbalanced and tried to bribe God to make him a miracle-worker. Peter didn't buy it, nailed Simon for his wickedness, and urged him to repent (22-23). That frightened Simon enough to ask for prayers—but only God knows if he repented in heart and mind (24). The apostles moved on, for God put other people on their radar (25). Let us praise the LORD for His transfiguration, for His dedication to our salvation, and for ruling over us till the end of days. Amen!