

Our Saviour Lutheran Church



The Transfiguration of Our Lord 25 January 2015

Welcome!

We are delighted to have you with us this morning to receive the Lord's gifts of forgiveness, life and salvation. Please stay for a cup of tea or coffee after the service.

Please also record your visit in the visitors' book at the back. If you would like a phone call or a pastoral visit, speak to the pastor or leave a note in the visitors' book.

The Offering

Members of this church are privileged to give to the Lord for the work of His church in this community and throughout the world. *Visitors should not feel obliged in any way to contribute to the offering plate.*

Children in the Service

It is a delight and a privilege to have children in the service. Children as much as adults are members of God's family and Jesus welcomes little children to Him.

There is a Sunday School for children during the sermon. The children leave at the beginning of the sermon and return to church after the prayers.

Please don't worry if your child won't sit still or quietly throughout the service. Most young children won't manage that! There is plenty of space at the back of the room. If you do need to take a child outside, the smaller room is available for that purpose.

Holy Communion

We believe that in the Lord's Supper, we eat and drink the true body and blood of Jesus in and with the bread and the wine, according to Jesus' own words. We also believe that those who participate in Holy Communion in a particular congregation should be in agreement in the confession of the faith.

If you are visiting us and wish to receive the Lord's Supper, please speak to the pastor *before the service*. Everyone is welcome to come forward to receive a blessing.

Our teaching on this matter is explained in more detail in the little leaflet, 'Why Closed Communion?', which is available at the back of the church.

Thank you for honouring our beliefs.

Hymns: 873, 413, 414, 652

Catechism

P What is the Office of the Keys?

C The Office of the Keys is that special authority which Christ has given to His church on earth to forgive the sins of repentant sinners, but to withhold forgiveness from the unrepentant as long as they do not repent.

P Where is this written?

C This is what St John the Evangelist writes in chapter twenty: The Lord Jesus breathed on His disciples and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you withhold forgiveness from any, it is withheld."

P What do you believe according to these words?

C I believe that when the called ministers of Christ deal with us by His divine command, in particular when they exclude openly unrepentant sinners from the Christian congregation and absolve those who repent of their sins and want to do better, this is just as valid and certain, even in heaven, as if Christ our dear Lord dealt with us Himself.

Introit (*Ps. 84:1–2a, 4, 10–11; antiphon: Ps. 77:18*)



A Your lightnings lighted | up the world;*
the earth trem- | bled and shook.

C How lovely is your dwelling place, O | LORD of
hosts!*

My soul longs, yes, faints for the
courts | of the LORD;*

A Blessed are those who dwell | in your house,*
ever sing- | ing your praise!

C For a day in your courts is better than a
thousand | elsewhere.*

I would rather be a doorkeeper in the
house of my God than dwell in the tents
of | wickedness.

A For the LORD God is a sun and shield; the LORD
bestows favour and | honour.*

No good thing does he withhold from those
who walk up- | rightly.

C ♦ *Glory be to the Father and | to the Son**
and to the Holy | Spirit;

as it was in the be- | ginning,*
is now and will be forever. | Amen.

A Your lightnings lighted | up the world;*
the earth trem- | bled and shook.

Collect of the Day

O God, in the glorious transfiguration of Your beloved Son You confirmed the mysteries of the faith by the testimony of Moses and Elijah. In the voice that came from the bright cloud You wonderfully foreshowed our adoption by grace. Mercifully make us co-heirs with the King in His glory and bring us to the fullness of our inheritance in heaven; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns

with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Old Testament Reading—Exodus 34:29–35

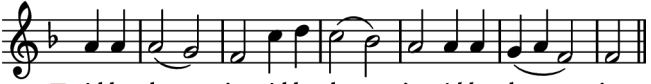
Gradual (*Ps. 45:2a, 110:1*)

A You are the most handsome of the | sons of men; *
grace is poured up- | on your lips.

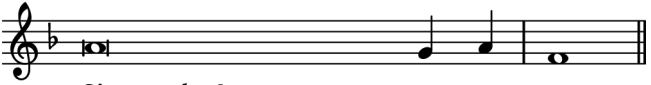
C **The LORD says to my Lord: “Sit at my | right
hand,***
until I make your enemies your | footstool.

Epistle Reading—2 Peter 1:16–21

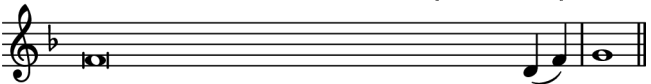
Alleluia & Verse (*Ps. 96:2–3*)



C Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia.



Sing to the LORD;
tell of his salvation from day to day.*



Declare his glory among the nations,
his marvellous works among all the peo-**ples!**



Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia.

Gospel Reading—Matthew 17:1–9

Members

Ron; Frank

Family of members

Patrick Rankin; Diana (old age); Alex, Sarah & family; Roly (dementia); Matthew (kidney injury); Geoffrey & family

Friends of members

Ilse Kelly (old age); Trevor (unemployed); Mary (cancer); Gus and Mae (health); Claire and Phil (health); Helen Kriewaldt (stroke, breast cancer); Johann Wiebusch (CP); Rob (depression); Bob Waters (cancer); Ronnie (cancer); Sally (health); Leanne (health); Bonnie & family of Ray & Doreen; Gina & family; Rita Annis (health); Clare Annis (cancer); Julie Gardiner (health)

ELCE

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Pr. Samiec; St. Timothy's Lutheran Church; ELCE Committee on Worship; University Students; Wendy Nicolson (cancer); Pr. Edge, Pr. McNally & Pr. Fry (health)

The Church of God

St. Columba CofE; Lutherans in Africa, Pr. James May; Somali Christian Mission, Mohamed Gurhan

A READING FROM THE BOOK OF CONCORD THE FORMULA OF CONCORD ARTICLE II: FREE WILL

... The eternal Father calls down from heaven about His dear Son and about all who preach repentance and forgiveness of sins in His name, “Listen to Him” (Matthew 17:5).

All who want to be saved ought to listen to this preaching. For the preaching and hearing of God's Word are the Holy Spirit's instruments. By, with, and through these instruments the Spirit desires to work

effectively, to convert people to God, and to work in them both to will and to do.

A person can hear and read this Word outwardly, even though he is not yet converted to God and regenerate. As said above, a person even since the fall has a free will to a certain extent in these outward things. So he can go to church and listen or not listen to the sermon.

God works through this means (i.e., the preaching and hearing of His Word). He breaks our hearts and draws us to Him. Through the preaching of the Law, a person comes to know his sins and God's wrath. He experiences in his heart true terrors, contrition, and sorrow. Through the preaching of, and reflection on, the Holy Gospel about the gracious forgiveness of sins in Christ, a spark of faith is kindled in him. This faith accepts the forgiveness of sins for Christ's sake and comforts itself with the Gospel promise. So the Holy Spirit (who does all this) is sent into the heart.

Paragraphs 51–56

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DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES		
This Week		
Today	5 pm	Pastor at Oxford Mission
Mon	7.30 pm	Pester-a-Pastor (Eastleigh)
Wed	10.30 am	Pastor's Surgery (The Hub)
	2 pm	Devotion at Willow Tree Lodge & Merry Hall
Sat	5.30 pm	Saturday Supper
Sun	10.30 am	Divine Service with Baptism (St. Francis); Westfield House Sunday)
Next Month		
4 Feb	2 pm	Devotion at Kiln Lodge & Hunters Lodge
8 Feb	4.30 pm	Service at Brighton Mission
10–11 Feb		Barnes Conference (Cambridge)
22 Feb	5 pm	Pastor at Oxford Mission
25 Feb	2 pm	Devotion at Willow Tree Lodge & Merry Hall
26 Feb	7.30 pm	CTF Annual General Meeting
27 Feb	3 pm	Bible study at Brighton Mission

Next Sunday's Readings:

Exodus 17:1–7; 1 Cor. 9:24–10:5; Matthew 20:1–16

Daily Readings:

Sun: Zechariah 1:1–21 Romans 14:1–23 *Large Catechism IV: 56–67*

Mon: Zech 2:1–3:10 Rom 15:1–13 *LC IV: 68–86*

Tue: Zech 4:1–5:11 Rom 15:14–33 *LC V: 1–14*

Wed: Zech 6:1–7:14 Rom 16:17–27 *LC V: 15–30*

Thu: Zech 8:1–23 2 Timothy 1:1–18 *LC V: 31–41*

Fri: Zech 9:1–17 2 Tim 2:1–26 *LC V: 42–57*

Sat: Zech 10:1–11:3 2 Tim 3:1–18 *LC V: 58–74*

Sun: Zech 11:4–17 2 Tim 4:1–18 *LC V: 75–87*

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