



*Jesus was transfigured  
before them*

MARK 9:2



**TRINITY UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
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The Rev. Dr. Christopher M. Rankin, Pastor

The Rev. Harry G. Royer, Pastor Emeritus

The Rev. Dr. Carolyn Call, Covenanted Minister of Mission

Mr. Michael Slechta, Director of Music/ Sounds of Trinity Choir Director

Mr. James Landis, Interim Organist

Mrs. Carmen Richards, Pianist

Mrs. Carol Kratz, Administrative Assistant

Mrs. Amy Hummer, Interim Preschool Director

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**TRANSFIGURATION SUNDAY/ LAST SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY**  
**7:45 A.M. SERVICE**

**Today's Theme:** 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 shine in us also for others to see.

**Welcome all visitors!** We welcome all who worship with us. May the joy of Christ's presence and the power of the Holy Spirit fill you with peace and hope! We are honored by your presence and trust that you will join us in the praise and worship of God. Please sign our guest book in the narthex. If you are interested in church membership, please give your name and telephone number to Pastor Rankin.

**Welcome to the Eucharist!** All who seek to follow Jesus and who seek the gifts Jesus offers us are invited to share in this sacrament of Holy Communion.

*Children are invited to receive communion at the discretion of their parents/guardians. If a child wants to receive a blessing, they are asked to fold their hands.*

**Prayer As You Enter:** *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.*

## PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

*(PLEASE STAND IF YOU ARE ABLE)*

### **CALL TO WORSHIP**

#### **AFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM AND INVITATION TO THE TABLE**

In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Come to the mountaintop to pray, for God will not keep silence.

**We gather to listen for God's word and to make our response.**

Come to the light of God's revelation, for we are in darkness apart from God's love.

**The light shines in our hearts, giving knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Christ.**

Come, as God's covenant people, who serve and sacrifice in faithfulness.

**The heavens declare God's righteousness and draw us to the excitement of worship.**

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

### **CONFESSION OF SINS**

#### **CALL TO CONFESSION**

God has come to us in Christ, but we often live as if it made no difference.

**Let us confess our sins before God in silent prayer.**

*(SEATED OR KNEELING)*

#### **SILENT CONFESSION OF SINS**

#### **CONFESSION OF SIN**

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

**God, our rock and refuge, we pour out our hearts before you. We have known you but have not always loved you. We have wounded one another and sinned against you. We have not always recognized the Holy Spirit dwelling in each of us. Remember your covenant. Renew your creation. Restore us that we might proclaim your good news to all. Amen.**

## KYRIE

Lord, have mercy.      Lord, have mercy.  
Christ, have mercy.    Christ, have mercy.  
Lord, have mercy.      Lord, have mercy.

## ASSURANCE OF PARDON

*(PLEASE STAND IF YOU ARE ABLE)*

## ACT OF PRAISE

O God, open my lips.

**And my mouth shall proclaim your praise.**

Praise to the holy and undivided Trinity, one God:

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.**

## COLLECT FOR THE TRANSFIGURATION OF OUR LORD

Let us pray the collect together.

**In the glistening brightness of your presence, Holy God, we turn our attention to your teaching, fully attuned to what you want to say to us. May the light of the gospel so illuminate us that we receive a double portion of the prophet's spirit and the assurance that we are your beloved servants; through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

*(PLEASE BE SEATED)*

## THE WORD OF GOD

### THE FIRST LESSON

2 Kings 2:1-12

*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.*

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

### THE PSALTER

Psalm 50:1-6

The mighty one, God the Lord, speaks and summons the earth from the rising of the sun to its setting.

**Out of Zion, the perfection of beauty, God shines forth.**

Our God comes and does not keep silent; before him is a devouring fire and a mighty tempest all around him.

**He calls to the heavens above and to the earth, that he may judge his people:**

“Gather to me my faithful ones, who made a covenant with me by sacrifice!”  
**The heavens declare his righteousness, for God himself is judge.**

## **THE SECOND LESSON**

2 Corinthians 4:3-6

*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.*

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

*(PLEASE STAND IF YOU ARE ABLE)*

## **THE HOLY GOSPEL**

St. Mark 9:2-9

*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.*

*Glory be to You, O Lord.*

## **THE GOSPEL OF OUR LORD**

*Praise be to You, O Christ.*

*(PLEASE BE SEATED)*

## **SERMON**

**“The Light of Christ”**

**Pastor Rankin**

*(PLEASE STAND IF YOU ARE ABLE)*

## **NICENE CREED**

**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 fully 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 in unity with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified, and 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.

## PEOPLE'S OFFERING

### OFFERING DEDICATION

God of light and promise, we bring our gifts to further your work in a dark world. May they bring your light to those overwhelmed by darkness, pain, and loneliness. Accept these gifts of money and time, indeed, the gift of our very selves. Let them shine for all to see, and be brought into the sphere of your love and righteousness. We pray in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

### THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them up to the Lord!**

Let us give thanks to God Most High.

**It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Mighty God, Wonderful Counselor, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. In ancient days, you created us in your image to be reflections of your glory. When we fell short and dimmed the brilliance of your light shining through us, you held our hands and walked with us out of the garden into all the corners of the earth. When we were afraid to look upon your glory, you came as a quiet traveler, as a burning bush, and as a pillar of light. You called us to be people of light, to walk no longer in darkness, and always, you light our way. Even when we walk in darkness, you shine your light and offer your grace, awaiting our return to you. In the fullness of time, you sent your Son, Jesus Christ, to reveal your glory and grace. And so, with your people on earth and all the angels in heaven, we praise your holy name and join their unending hymn:

**Holy, holy, holy God of love and majesty, the whole universe speaks of your glory, O God, Most High. Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest!**

(PLEASE BE SEATED)

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION AND PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

### THE PRAYER OF OUR LORD

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.

### BREAKING OF THE HOST & POURING OF THE CUP

As this grain was once scattered in the fields, and has come together in one bread, so we, with different needs and hopes, come together as one, for we share one bread.

**The Bread of Life, broken for us.**

The cup which we share is the cup of the New Covenant written in our hearts and witnessed by Jesus.

**The Cup of Blessing, poured out for us and for the many.**

*(Those who wish to come forward will be invited by the pastor. The pastor will serve you the host, saying, "The Body of Christ." You reply, "Amen!" The assistant will present you with the cup, saying, "The Blood of Christ." You reply, "Amen!" Grape juice is in the chalice with the cross and wine is in the other chalice. If you need the pastor and assistant to come to you, please indicate that to someone near you or the pastor. If you do not wish to come forward, you are invited to use the packaged elements at the back of the sanctuary and commune in your pew. The pastor will offer a blessing everyone has communed. Children are invited to receive communion at the discretion of their parents/guardians. If a child wants to receive a blessing, they are asked to fold their hands.)*

(PLEASE STAND IF YOU ARE ABLE)

### POST COMMUNION PRAYERS

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

As we celebrate Christ embodied in human form, we pray for God's blessing on the church, the world, and all of creation.

We pray for the church, that the transformational power of God enters the hearts of all people. May its leaders serve as examples of your grace and healing across time and space. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

We pray for the creation, that we will humbly observe the swirl of wind and the heat of the bright sun. Teach us to honor all you have made and to care for the animals, plants, air, and bodies of water of this planet. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

We pray for those charged with leadership, lawmaking, and governance of our towns, states, and countries, that they will strive for goodness and justice all the days of their lives and callings. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

We pray for this congregation and its ministry in the wider community. May we share the transforming beauty and love of God in ways that honor the dignity of all whom we encounter. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

We pray for those who are sick and suffering. Guide us to offer hospitality, shelter, friendship, and care to any in need. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

***SILENT PRAYER***

Let us pray together.

**Giver of every gift, Christ's body is our food, and we are Christ's body. Raise us to life by your power for the benefit of all and to your glory, now and forever. Amen.**

**CLOSE OF WORSHIP**

**RESPONSIVE BENEDICTION**

Arise, and go forth to shine for all the world to see.

**We go to spread the good news of light and love, righteousness and justice.**

May the blessing of the God of light rest upon you and fill you with light. Amen.



**CATCH THE VISION & SHARE THE JOY**



**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**The Chancel Flowers are given by Joan Cash in memory of C. L. Fountain.**



The **Worship Aids** are given in gratitude for James Landis' ministry as our interim organist. Thank you, James!

**Ministering Today**

**Pastor** Rev. Dr. Christopher Rankin  
**Lector/Assistant** Jeff Hackenberger  
**Money Counters** Bud & Kathy McCarty, Jeff Hackenberger, John Shelsky  
**Altar Guild** Karen Olley, Beth Bossert  
**Building Trustee** Mike Wagner  
**Koinonia** Rankin  
**Ministries** **Card Office Staff** (Carol Kratz)  
**Called to Care** Anne Rankin  
**Visitation** Anita Rohrer

**Happy Birthday**

Tuesday – Ian Derstler  
Thursday – George Adams  
Friday – Ali Daly, Alison Kauffman

**Attendance for Sun., Feb. 4** 7:45–16 10:30–78 **TOTAL – 94**  
**Sunday School** 24

**This Week at Trinity Church**

**(Church Office Hours: Monday-Friday 9:00 a.m.-2 p.m.)**

Today Following 2<sup>nd</sup> Service - Love Sunday/Meals with a Mission  
Monday 7:00 PM-Choir/8:15 PM Bells  
Tuesday 7:00 PM – Finance  
Wednesday 2:00 & 7:00 PM – Ash Wednesday Services  
Thursday 2:00 PM – CROP Walk Mtg.  
6:00 PM – Cub Scouts  
Friday No Preschool  
Saturday 7:00 PM – Alanon/8:00 PM - AA  
Sunday 7:45 AM – Eucharist  
9:00 AM – Sunday School  
10:00 AM - Koinonia  
10:30 AM – Worship

## PRAYERS FOR GOD'S HEALING PRESENCE

### MEMBERS

<b>Ken &amp; Phyllis Zimmerman</b>	<b>Leo Daly</b>	<b>Hedwig Hunsicker</b>
<b>Michael McDonough</b>	<b>Jodi Keller</b>	<b>Rev. Ken Trauger</b>
<b>Don &amp; Pat Miller</b>	<b>Nancy Patton</b>	<b>Dr. Janet Harriger</b>
<b>The Lehman family</b>	<b>Joann Peck</b>	<b>Harry Himelwright</b>
<b>Donna Wolf &amp; Family</b>	<b>Mary Lou Shaab</b>	<b>Scott &amp; Jane Owens</b>
<b>Stan &amp; Pat Seachrist</b>	<b>Donna Zirkel</b>	<b>Carmen &amp; Jerry Richards</b>
<b>Rev. Dave &amp; Mid Gockley</b>	<b>Sam Minder III</b>	<b>Lainie Christensen</b>
<b>Rev. Bob &amp; Nancy Musser</b>	<b>Hank Fox</b>	<b>Pastor Harry Royer</b>
<b>Betty Tyndall and family</b>	<b>Mary Witmer</b>	<b>Bob &amp; Marlyn Wible</b>
<b>Rev. Bob &amp; Judie Bistline</b>	<b>Erika Otthofer</b>	<b>Kathleen Sensenig Adams</b>
<b>Rev. Jere &amp; Judy Chapman</b>	<b>Ron Becker</b>	<b>Danielle Huggins Holbein</b>
<b>Joann &amp; Dawn Garvin</b>	<b>The Fischer Family</b>	<b>Dr. Blaine Connor</b>
<b>John Shelsky</b>	<b>Shelly Family</b>	

### FAMILY & FRIENDS

**Tom Chapman** (brother of Rev. Jere Chapman)  
**Annette Stork** (niece of Pat Sensenig)  
**Logan Davis** (husband of Hillary Bossert-Davis)  
**Brian & Liz Culp** (son and daughter-in-law of Rev. Jere & Judy Chapman)  
**Jean Weglarz** (neighbor of Rev. Bob & Judie Bistline)  
**Dan Doughton** (Family friend of John and Sarah Paulukow)  
**Melby Bush** (friend of Joan Sensenig)  
**Harvey & Dianne Sick** (friends of Judy Chapman)  
**Aaron Flickinger** (nephew of Pat & Joan Sensenig)  
**Deb Olley Heagy** (daughter of Jack & Karen Olley)  
**The Haverstick Family** (friends of Mike & Shelley Wagner)  
**Tom Riley** (friend of Bud McCarty)  
**Rev. Loy Garber** (former seminarian)  
**Roland Anderson and family** (friends of John & Kayla Brennan)  
**Jaden Allen** (nephew of Carol Kratz)  
**Gina McCarty** (daughter-in-law of Bud & Kathy McCarty)  
**The Bruno family** (friends of Blaine Connor)  
**Jessica Brown** (niece of Mike & Shelley Wagner)  
**Janice Zimmerman** (sister of Ken Zimmerman)  
**John Martin** (brother-in-law of Dolly & John Barr)  
**Kelly Quick** (friend of Rev. Dr. Rich & Lainie Christensen)  
**Marianne Gibble** (friend of Trinity)  
**James Malone & family**  
**Tom & Elaine Lichtenwalner** (parents of Mike Lichtenwalner)

Janet Owens (sister-in-law of Scott & Jane Owens)  
Chad Zirkel (son of Donna Zirkel)  
Jordan Sensenig (grandson of Pat & Joan Sensenig),  
Don Pfeifer (husband of Denise Pfeifer)  
Jake & Jean Otthofer (parents of Dan Otthofer)  
The Martin family  
Robert Richards (brother of Jerry Richards)  
Ronald Himelwright (grandson of Brenda & Harry Himelwright)  
Barry Richards (son of Jerry & Carmen Richards)  
Tyler Miller (grandson of Iris DeMaio)  
Joan Kalbach (mother of Dr. Cathy Hoshauer)  
Jim & Kathy Long (friends of Jerry & Carmen Richards)  
John Siebern (Bob Siever's brother-in-law)  
Jo Jo Richards & family (Carmen & Jerry's granddaughter-in-law)

**THE FEBRUARY PARISH POST** is available in the information racks on both floors of the church building.

**DEVOTIONALS:** The January-March edition of These Days are available on the table across from the church office or on the lower level by the portico entrance. **Lenten devotionals are available on the table across from the church office.**

**2023 ANNUAL REPORTS** are available on both floors of the building!

## TRINITY'S MEALS WITH A MISSION February 11, 2024



Trinity will again be preparing/assembling meals for some of our members on Sunday, February 11. We will meet after the second service to prepare the meals - it should take about an hour.

If you are able to help out with the assembly or delivery of the meal, please sign up on the sheets in the Narthex! Hands of all sizes are welcome to help.

If you have questions, contact Deb Lichtenwalner-717-203-9506 or [deblich@comcast.net](mailto:deblich@comcast.net).



**February 14**  
**2:00 & 7:00 PM**



**Lenten Services:**  
 Wednesdays, February 21-March 27  
 7:00 PM

**ASH WEDNESDAY VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:** We are in need of greeters for our 2 p.m. service and greeters/ushers for our 7 p.m. If you are able to help, please contact Pastor Chris or Carol Kratz.

### **HOLY LAMENT: MIDWEEK LENTEN SERVICES**

This series explores various kinds of lament found in scripture. Each week we will consider what it means to sit with our grief rather than try to push it aside. We will discover that many faithful believers have wrestled with grief, sorrow, and questions for God about why the innocent suffer. This series understands lament as one of the more faithful things we can do. When we approach God with honest and humility, and we admit that some things are too big for our hearts to bear, we will find there not a disapproving God but one who weeps with us. We will find a God who can take our grief and disappointment and transform them into holy joy and renewed hope. We will learn, ultimately, that Jesus' death on the cross---the place to which the season of Lent leads us---is the reason we never mourn as those without hope.

Join us each Wednesday during Lent at 7 p.m. as some of our clergy members or religious teachers in our midst preach. Below is the list of our themes and preachers:

February 21: What is Lament? –Rev. Dr. Carrie Call preaching  
 February 28: "Little" Laments—Dr. Randall Zachman preaching  
 March 6: Laments from the Depths—Rev. Dr. Rich Christensen preaching  
 March 13: Individual Lament—Rev. Bob Bistline preaching  
 March 20: Communal Lament—Rev. Ken Trauger preaching

*Information about Holy Week & Easter services will be in the March Parish Post!*

**ORGANIST TRANSITION:** James Landis is completing his tenure as our interim organist today. We thank James for sharing his musical gifts with us and wish him God's blessings as he continues to share his musical gifts. We might see James again when we need a supply organist. Beginning on Ash Wednesday, Dr. Robert Adams will begin as our interim organist. Dr. Adams, a retired organist and music professor, recently moved to the Traditions of East Petersburg and worshipped with us this past summer.

**THE MEN OF TRINITY (M.O.T.) BREAKFAST:** The men will be meeting in February 17 at 8:00 AM at Family Fare Restaurant. There is a sign-up sheet across from the church office.

**PRAYER SHAWL** The Prayer Shawl will meet Tuesday, February 20<sup>th</sup> from 1:00-3:00 PM. They will continue to meet on the third Tuesday of each month! Come and bring a friend. Hope to see many of you there! Contact Betty Tyndall for more information.

**2024 CHANCEL FLOWERS AND WORSHIP AID SPONSORS:** Upcoming dates for worship aids are: **February 25, March 3, 10, 17 & 24.** Upcoming dates for Chancel Flowers are **March 3, 17, 24 & 31.** The price for flowers is \$60. The price for worship aids is \$26. Look for the charts on the bulletin board in the narthex or call Carol in the church office.

**KOINONIA/SUNDAYMORNING FELLOWSHIP:** We have resumed koinonia (community fellowship) every Sunday at 10 a.m. in Isenberg Hall. Volunteers are asked to provide light refreshments and drinks/coffee. The sign-up sheet is on the kitchen coordinator. If you have any questions, contact Paula Dennes. **Coffee is always available between 7:45 service and Sunday School.**

**CALLED TO CARE MINISTRY:** The Evangelism Committee is in need of more volunteers to provide meals for our members! If you are interested, speak with Pastor Chris!



**LIFE LINE SCREENING**, the nation's leading provider of preventive health screenings, will offer affordable, non-invasive and painless health screenings at Trinity United Church of Christ on **Saturday, March 2, 2024**. A package of four screenings to identify risk for stroke, heart disease and other chronic conditions will be offered: **Carotid Artery Screening (Plaque), Peripheral Arterial Disease Screening Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm (AAA), Atrial Fibrillation.**

These 4 vital screenings take 60-90 minutes to complete. Register by calling toll free 1-844-591-7160, text the word "circle" to 216-279-1607 or online at <https://lisa.social/>

### **EXPLORING THE SKY ABOVE TRINITY U.C.C. WITH SUE BOWMAN**

(Sue is a member of Trinity and a retired Astronomy teacher)

Calling all stargazers and those interested in enjoying a celestial evening out! Bring your telescopes and binoculars and join in the fun as the Trinity Preschool families and the members of Trinity explore **The Sky Above Trinity U.C.C.** This observation session will train the telescope at Jupiter and its moons, Earth's moon as well as deep sky clusters and nebulae. The Trinity Youth will be assisting with the setup and use of the equipment and may be found to be quite conversant on matters astronomical! Great chance to use the star chart provided or look ahead with one of these apps: *Star Chart, NASA app, Night Sky, Sky View Free, Star Walk2, Sky Safari.* You may wish to bring along lawn chairs. Until then, keep looking up!

*Look for the sign-up sheet across from the church office*

**March 14th**

**6-7 pm Pizza**

**7 pm Brief Intro to the observation session**

**7:15 pm Observation begins**





**Here is a list of supplies needed by our Preschool. Please consider purchasing an item and placing it in the basket in the Narthex.**

Small dry erase markers

Beginners pencils

Foil

Cotton balls

Coffee filters-large & small

Plain white muffin cups-small

Glue bottles with brushes

Scissor scoops

Plastic spoons and forks

Hot glue sticks

Thank you!

**FIRST READING: 2 Kings 2:1-12**

Now when the LORD was about to take Elijah up to heaven by a whirlwind, Elijah and Elisha were on their way from Gilgal. <sup>2</sup>Elijah 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. <sup>3</sup>The 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.”

<sup>4</sup>Elijah 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. <sup>5</sup>The 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.”

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

<sup>9</sup>When 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.” <sup>10</sup>He 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.” <sup>11</sup>As 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. <sup>12</sup>Elisha 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.

**Psalm 50:1-6****SECOND READING: 2 Corinthians 4:3-6**

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

**GOSPEL: Mark 9:2-9**

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

<sup>9</sup>As 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.

**Next Sunday’s Readings:** Genesis 9:8-17; Psalm 25:1-10; 1 Peter 3:18-22; Mark 1:9-15.

Cover: Greek Orthodox icon depicting Jesus’ transfiguration. Copyright © Universal Images/Superstock. Used by permission.

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Tracks 1 and 2  
ELCA-R