

think. Our will to live can help us recuperate from the most horrific of ailments. Harder still would be getting a time line of our death. Knowing we will die to benefit ungrateful people. We suspect the conversation with Moses and Elijah concerned Jesus' death. The end of our Gospel Lesson is the glory, still it is the pain, "until the Son of Man has been raised from the dead." Moses was with Jesus because he died was buried and his body was raised to prevent its use by Satan, Elijah was taken to Heaven without death, thus we know there is an afterlife. We are given the blessed expectation that we are acceptable for Heaven through Jesus.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

¶ Almighty God, Your eyes are on the righteous and Your ears are open to our prayers. Hear us now as we bring the prayers of Your people. Grant us all such things as we need for the health of our souls and bodies.

We praise You, O God, for the precious gift of Your Son. We bless You especially this day for the Revelation of Your will in our Savior's glorious Transfiguration on the Holy Mount. By this mighty sign give to us, O Lord, and to all Your people a clearer vision and higher knowledge of Christ. Give us grace to behold Him with the eyes of faith in the splendor of His eternal deity. Allow us to worship and adore Him in sincerity and truth. Grant that as we behold the radiance of His heavenly wonder, we may know Him and believe in Him as the Light of the World, the Sun of Righteousness, and the express image of Your Own Divine Being.

Look on Your church, O Lord, here and in all places. Grant that we and all who bear the name of Christ may daily offer up to You the acceptable sacrifices of repentance, thanksgiving, and loving obedience.

Help as we work together, not to close Christ up in a building, but to bring the message of His glory and wonder to the people of the world. We pray, O Lord, that You would renew our thoughts to Christ; turn our footsteps to the path of eternal life; cleanse us of all sin; and heal us of every disease of body, mind and spirit.

We ask that you would: comfort all who are afflicted, guard Your loved ones, shield us from the powers of wickedness, give us each our daily bread, and make us content in the work You have given us.

Look to our nation, deliver us from wickedness and remove from us all unrighteousness. For the people of the world we ask that You way may be known on Earth. Give Your saving help to all nations.

Hear us as we bring to You our private petitions. (**Time of silent prayer.**)

Grant our petitions in the name of Jesus Christ our Savior.

© Amen.

TRANSFIGURATION

Chant Tone



Introit

Exalt the Lord our God, and worship at His holy — mountain;*
for the Lord our God is — holy!

The Lord reigns; let the peoples — tremble!*

He sits enthroned upon the cherubim; let the — Earth quake!

The Lord is great in — Zion;*

He is exalted over all the — peoples.

Let them praise Your great and | awesome name!*

Ho | ly is He!

The King in His might loves — justice.*
You have established equity; You have executed justice and righteousness in — Jacob.

Exalt the Lord our God; worship at His — footstool!*

Ho | ly is He!

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.

Exalt the Lord our God, and worship at His holy — mountain;*
for the Lord our God is — holy!

(Antiphon, Psalm 99:9;
Psalm 99:1-5)

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.

Gradual

Praise the Lord, all — nations!*

Extol Him, all — peoples!

For great is His | Love toward us,*

and the faithfulness of the Lord endures for — ever.

Ascribe to the Lord the glory | due His name;*

bring an offering and come in | to His courts!

(Psalm 117:1-2a; 96:8)

ENTRANCE PRAYER: Almighty God, You have given us the Law and You have Redeemed us from the punishment for our failure to uphold Your Law, for that we come before You in awe and reverence. You maintained the knowledge of Your Holiness through Moses, Elijah, and Your Son Jesus, we give You most hearty thanks. Through Your Son, You revealed Your Word in the flesh. Send us Your Holy Spirit that we may hear Him speaking to us in Your Word. Give us the courage to hold high the light of Your Word to those who sit in darkness and bless it in the hearts of those who hear it. Accept our thanks or permitting us to bask in the light of Your truth. Amen (So be it, Lord.)

EPIPHANY BEGINS WITH THE MAGI FOLLOWING THE STAR AND ENDS WITH THE APOSTLES FINDING LIFE IN THE LIGHT OF JESUS. The voice from the cloud told all we need to know, "This is My Son listen to Him." Peter was so overwhelmed he wanted to stay in his joy forever, capturing the glory in a shelter. Peter didn't realize that the glory of God is the overwhelming Light of the world. God cannot be contained in place or local. He is the God of all who have been called out to live in the Light. (If God, or the glory of God in Jesus Christ, was contained in a shelter on the mountain we would never have come to know of salvation. Jesus and His glory are presented to all. It is the work of the church to ensure that His glory is not contained in this building, but presented to all the people of the world. Thank you for coming out to worship today. We find our joy in being together singing praise to God for His Son, our Savior.

THEME OF THE DAY:

Listen

INTROIT—(Antiphon: Psalm 99:9;) Psalm 99:1-5

Psalm 99 is slightly unusual in tone. Most of the Psalms look forward to the time of the epiphany of the Messiah and the wonder of the Gospel. This Psalm looks back to the epiphany of God's glory and grace in the Old Testament and especially as it came through Moses. Psalm 99 reminds us of the wonder of the worship in the Tabernacle when God proclaimed His presence as a cloud (verse 7) but we use it to remember Him as a pillar of fire.

COLLECT

The Collect mentions Moses and Elijah because they met with Jesus on the mount of Transfiguration. We ask to be coheirs with all the redeemed in the wonder of the work and person of Jesus.

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON—Exodus 24:8-18

Moses ascended Mount Sinai to receive the covenant message from God for the people. Moses received the tables which were inscribed by the finger of God. The people did not trust the leadership of Moses. They broke the first commandment before he came down from the Mountain. They didn't trust the will of God and Moses was simply God's representative. The life of Moses is a picture of the life of Christ. However, Jesus fulfilled those the things in which Moses failed. Jesus made perfect the things that Moses did wrong. To connect the Propers, we read of the cloud and the fire. These were the elements used to show the presence of God.

GRADUAL—Psalm 117:1-2a, 96:8

We who are gentiles in the kingdom, praise God for His perfect fulfillment of all things in Heaven and on Earth.

EPISTLE LESSON—2 Peter 1:16-21

On the Mount of Transfiguration Peter was given a display of the Divinity of Christ. Christ was visited by Moses and Elijah, whom the Apostles seem to recognize without explanation. If ever he had any question as to the Godman status of Jesus, it was assuaged. The event seems to have sustained Peter in times of great need. He was called on to lead the Apostles after Christ Ascended into Heaven, so it is perhaps fitting that he was allowed this special revelation. Peter mentions also the prophets. He doesn't specifically mention the encounter with Moses and Elijah, but he does confirm the veracity of Scripture, as prophecy of Jesus.

GOSPEL LESSON—Matthew 17:1-9

Jesus glowed with an inner fire. He was God on the Mountain with Moses and Elijah. Being told exactly when you will die isn't as useful as you might