

a wilderness of their own making when they sought power and glory in Baal. Both were speaking to Jesus about His own exodus, His departure, His death. The transfiguration serves as confirmation of who Jesus is and what He does. This true man is also true God. He is the Christ, the Messiah promised. We know that the people had their own expectation of Jesus. Jesus presented the Apostles with His mission, His purpose, the God ordained call and work. The Apostles were overshadowed by a cloud marking God's presence in the Old Testament. The mountain top became the tabernacle for the moment of God's presence. Just as quickly the who event ended with silence. Peter, James and John were again on the mountain with Jesus and many thoughts with little understanding. The disciples held on to the Words and deeds and at Pentecost it all become clear.

### PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

¶ Almighty God, You have promised to see the righteous and listen when they pray. We ask you then to hear the prayers of Your redeemed 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, 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 Divinity and 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 exact 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 us work together, not to close Christ up in a shelter, but to bring His glory and wonder to all the people of the world.

To this end, O Lord, we ask that You would renew us in the spirit of our mind. Turn our footsteps to the path of eternal life. Cleanse us of all sin and heal us of every disease. Comfort all who are afflicted and guard our loved ones wherever they may be. Shield us from the powers of wickedness, give us each our daily bread and make us content in the work You have given us.

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

We pray for all the people of this wonderful Earth that You created for us to live and enjoy. Grant that Your will would be known in every place, and that the saving knowledge of Jesus would be proclaimed among all the nations. In Your Son's glorified name we pray.

© Amen.

## TRANSFIGURATION

### Chant Tone



### Introit

Blessèd are those who dwell | in Your house,\*

Ever sing | ing Your praise.

How lovely is Your | dwelling place,\*

O | Lord of hosts!

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

my heart and flesh sing for joy to the | living God.

Behold our shield, —O God;\*

Look on the face of Your a —nointed!

For the Lord God is a sun and a shield; the Lord bestows favor and —honor.\*

No good thing does He withhold from those who walk up —rightly.

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.

Blessèd are those who dwell | in Your house,\*

Ever sing | ing Your praise.

(Antiphon, Psalm 84:4;  
Psalm 84:1-2, 9, 11)

### 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, Lawgiver and Redeemer of the human race, we come before You in awe and wonder. Your laws have saved humanity from anarchy and chaos; Your statutes help preserve our existence on this Earth. For preserving Your precepts 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. In the name of Jesus our Savior. 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 mountainside we would never have come to know of salvation. Jesus and His glory are presented to all. It is up to the church to ensure that His glory is not contained in this building, but presented to all the people of the world.

#### **THEME OF THE DAY:**

Jesus is the Fulfillment of the Old Testament

#### **INTROIT**—(Antiphon: Psalm 84:4;) Psalm 84:1-2, 9, 11

We are using a bit of a mosaic of Psalm 84. It is thought that David wrote Psalm 84 when his third son Absalom, forced the king to flee Jerusalem. King David was singing of his affection for God Who (by allowing David's most trusted general to find him, and by causing Absalom's great pride, his hair to become entangled in a tree) was able to regain the throne.

#### **COLLECT**

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

#### **OLD TESTAMENT LESSON**—Deuteronomy 34:1-12

The death and burial of Moses suggests both triumph and sorrow. The triumph appeared as Moses went up the slopes of the mountain where he was aware that death awaited him. The sorrow is in the fact that Moses would die without being allowed to enter the promised land. There is a transition established with Joshua, that continues the line of transition that began in Abraham and continues on through Jesus. Moses is described as the greatest prophet Israel ever had. God knew and spoke with him face to face. God revealed His name to Moses. Jesus is the completion of Moses. Jesus is God. Jesus' name is revealed as God. We use this lesson to understand how Moses was at the Transfiguration.

#### **GRADUAL**—Psalm 117:1-2a, 96:8

We used Psalm 117 and verse 8 of Psalm 96 for our Epiphany worship because we, who are gentiles in the kingdom, praise God for His perfect fulfillment of all things in Heaven and on Earth.

#### **EPISTLE LESSON**—Hebrews 3:1-6

We do read from the book of Hebrews, but this is a new set of verses to our reading schedule. The author of Hebrews reminded his readers of the importance of Moses. He further established that Jesus is of greater importance than Moses, because Jesus fulfilled all of the Law of God, wherein, though Moses gave the Law, he failed to keep it. There is also a bit of tricky imagery in which our bodies are presented as the House of God, in that Christ lives in us.

#### **GOSPEL LESSON**—Luke 9:28-36

On the verge of Lent and its sad tones, we have this most glorious scene. Here is Moses, symbol of the Law and Israel's exodus from Egypt and slavery through a wilderness to the land of promise. Here also is Elijah, symbol of the prophets and also a deliverer of Israel with an exodus from