

Daily Bible Readings for Home Devotions; Feb.28-March 5, '22

Mon Exodus 34:29-35 God chose a simple way to impress Moses and His people with His holiness, and Moses' sun-shiny face did the job. Whenever Moses and God met person-to-person ("face-to-face") inside the tabernacle, the veil was off, but when he came outside, Moses used the veil as a shield to protect the eyesight of his congregation. That's symbolic; stay tuned.

Tues Luke 9:28-36 Jesus outshined Moses in more ways than one, for He is God incarnate. On this occasion His deity shone like sunshine, and God's heavenly heroes Moses and Elijah honored Him also. That was already more than Peter could fathom, and it was even more stupefying to hear the voice of Almighty God directing them to listen up when Jesus had something to say. [Jesus is still with us in His Word, keep listening!]

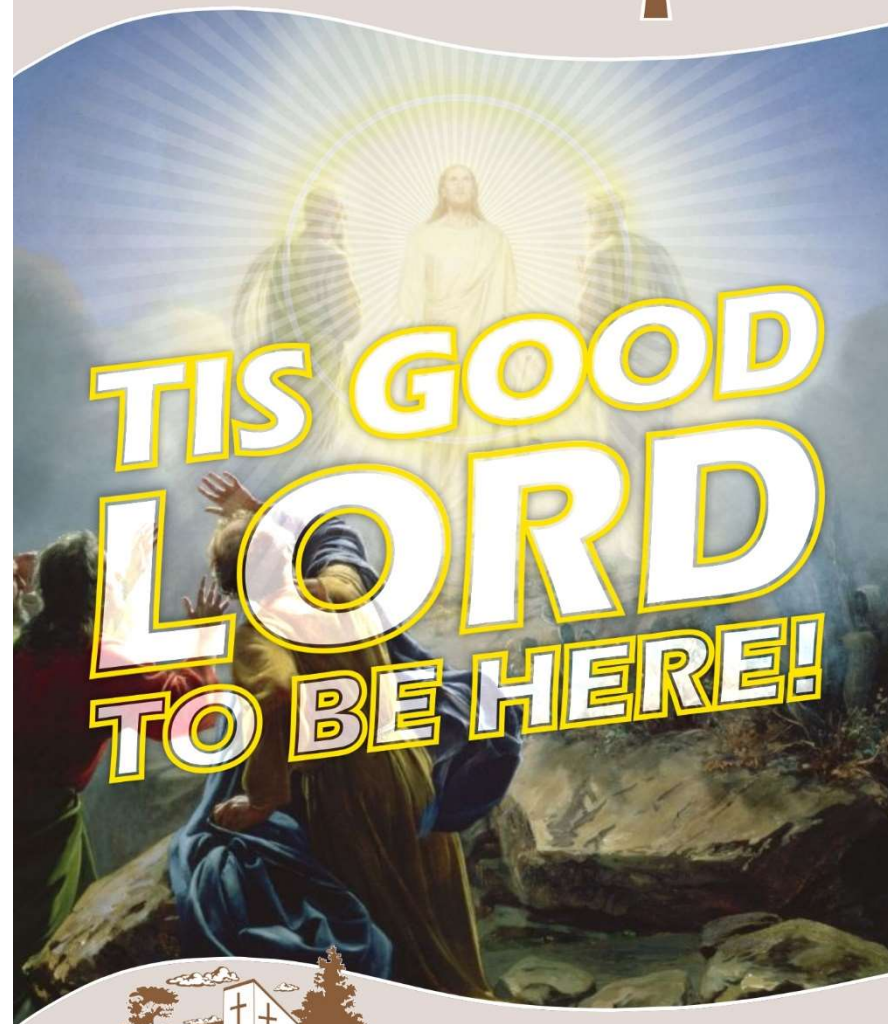
Wed 2 Corinthians 3:7-18 Moses administered God's Law, glorious in its own way. Contrariwise, God's grace in Christ Jesus is more glorious. Those who face God via Moses are dazzled by the Law and blind to Jesus, the Messiah revealed in God's Old Testament. After his conversion Paul dumped soul-servitude to the Law (which is a lost cause) and instead devoted his life to serving the gospel, God's glorious answer to sin.

Thurs 2 Samuel 12:1-13 Who dared confront King David with his sins—and hope to survive? A man of God with enough love to run the risk, apparently. David was already feeling rotten (Ps. 32:3-4; Ps. 38:1-8) about his sins, so via pastor Nathan, God touched him gently. Now, what caused David to explode (5)? Well, he did so because he was Law-oriented, as a king and judge is apt to be. It took him a while to digest God's mercy, which he needed all along.

Fri Luke 8:9-14 Did Jesus avoid confrontation? Nope. He loved people enough to face them with the truth about themselves. God can humble the self-righteous/proud sinner—so that He can embrace the repentant sinner. It's a good parable, but where do we fit? Sometimes we are proud of ourselves, and sometimes we are ashamed of ourselves. Jesus, help us!

Sat 2 Corinthians 5:20-6:2 God determined to end the war with humanity—and declare truce—so that humans can trash their battle gear and face God without fear of reprisal or punishment. It takes some convincing, of course, and God's good-will ambassadors do their best to get the message across. The real crux is to convince wary ex-enemies that the treaty is authentic, on the grounds that it has been signed in Jesus' blood (20-21). God has been gracious enough to save you and me and our neighbors across the globe, declaring an end to the warfare and assurance of peace with our Creator. Praise God our Savior!

February 27, 2022
Transfiguration



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✠ Opening Prayer ✠

Opening Hymn: TLH #135

“‘Tis Good, Lord, to Be Here”

P In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C *♫ Amen.*

P Pastor

C Congregation

Confession of Our Sins

We come before God recognizing that we are sinful and daily need His forgiveness.

P Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

P Our help is in the name of the Lord.

C *♫ Who made heaven and earth.*

P I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord.

C *♫ And You forgave the iniquity of my sin.*

P O Almighty God, our Maker and redeemer, we poor sinners confess unto You that we are by nature sinful and unclean and that we have sinned against You by thought, word, and deed. Wherefore we flee for refuge to Your infinite mercy, seeking and imploring Your grace for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ.

C **O most merciful God, who has given Your only begotten Son to die for us, have mercy upon us and for His sake grant us remission of all our sins; and by Your Holy Spirit increase in us true knowledge of You and of Your will and true obedience to Your Word, to the end that by Your grace we may come to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

Absolution from Our God

"If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." (1 John 1:9)

P Almighty God, our heavenly Father, has had mercy upon us and has given us His only Son to die for us and for His sake forgives us all our sins. To them that believe on His name He gives the power to become the sons of God and has promised them His Holy Spirit. He that believes and is baptized shall be saved. Grant this, Lord, unto us all.

C *♫ Amen.*

Matthew 17:1-4 After six days Jesus took with him Peter, James and John the brother of James, and led them up a high mountain by themselves. There He was transfigured before them. His face shone like the sun, and His clothes became as white as the light. Just then there appeared before them Moses and Elijah, talking with Jesus. 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."

IT IS GOOD FOR US TO BE HERE

Have you even tried to look at the combination of snow and the brightness of the sun? It usually gives me a very painful headache. In the book of Exodus we read Moses had gone up on the top of Mount Sinai to receive the Ten Commandments from the LORD. But the LORD only allowed Moses while in the cleft of a rock to see His back, and not His face or full glory. The Gospel of Mark gives us another impressive description of Jesus' transfiguration when he says that His garments were "shining, exceedingly white, like snow, such as no launderer on earth can whiten them." The brightness of Jesus' garments alone would have been enough to kill them if it were God's will. It is no wonder and no surprise that in the midst of all the excitement and emotion of this miraculous event that 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."

Think of Peter, James, and John. They had front row seats to what was happening. Just as quickly as Jesus' had been transfigured, "... there appeared before them Moses and Elijah, talking with Jesus." Certainly two Old Testament "all-stars" had just come into view. Questions arise like: How did the disciples know it was Moses and Elijah? They lived hundreds of years before them. How did Moses and Elijah appear there with Jesus even though they hadn't lived on the earth for such a long time? Both Moses and Elijah were taken into heaven in two very unique ways. God had buried Moses, and God had taken Elijah by a chariot of fire! Many questions, one answer. Don't make your God too small! In other words, what He tells us has happened, He is certainly able to perform! He keeps His promises.

Recognize that when we sit with Jesus and His Word, we see through the eyes of faith what we will see in our flesh (Job 19) when Jesus returns to take us home to heaven! "I was glad when they said to me, let us go into the house of the LORD!" (Psalm 122:1). And then let us say with those first disciples also, "It is good, Lord Jesus, for us to be here!"

The Offertory

In this prayer we OFFER God our hearts, asking Him for that best of all gifts, the Holy Spirit.

- G** *♪* **Create in me a clean heart, O God, And renew a right spirit within me Cast me not away from Thy presence; And take not Thy Holy Spirit from me. Restore unto me the joy of thy salvation; And uphold me with thy free spirit. Amen.**

✠ The Offering of Thankful Hearts ✠

Sermon Hymn: WS #719

"Jesus on the Mountain Peak"

Prayers, Lord's Prayer, and Benediction *Numbers 6:24-26*

The blessing given by God for His people.

- P** The LORD bless you and keep you; The LORD make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you; The LORD lift up His countenance upon you and give you His peace.
- G** *♪* **Amen, amen, a – men.**

Hymn: TLH #550:1-2, 7-9 *"O Splendor of God's Glory Bright"*

Announcements

Welcome! We pray that God's Word and our worship today will help you grow in the grace and knowledge of our Savior Jesus. We ask our visitors to please sign our guest book in the back of the church. If you are looking for a church home, we hope you've found it with us. Ask our Pastor about a free Bible study he offers to explain what we believe and teach. Where and when? Your convenience.

Lent Begins! This coming Wednesday is Ash Wednesday, marking the beginning of Lent. We will be having our Ash Wednesday service at 7:00 pm on Wednesday evening. We will still be having our 9 am Wednesday Bible Class.

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| February 20th Offerings: | \$ 1,880.00 |
| Weekly Offerings needed for budget | \$ 1,607.69 |
| General Fund Balance | \$23,932.56 |
| Faith-Blue Springs Balance | \$19,391.45 |
| Total Cash All Funds | \$59,362.39 |

The Introit

Ps. 84:1ff

A collection of passages that set the tone for the service.

- P** Blessed are those who dwell in your house, ever singing your praise!
- G** **How lovely is your dwelling place, O Lord of hosts!**
- P** My soul longs, yes, faints for the courts of the Lord; my heart and flesh sing for joy to the living God.
- G** **Behold our shield, O God; look on the face of your anointed!**
- P** For the Lord God is a sun and shield; the Lord bestows favor and honor. No good thing does he withhold from those who walk uprightly.
- G** **Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;**
- P** As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

The Gloria Patri

TLH #250:1

Latin for "Glory be to the Father."

- G** *♪* **Holy God, we praise thy name; Lord of all, we bow before Thee. All on earth Thy scepter claim, All in heaven above adore Thee. Infinite Thy vast domain, Everlasting is Thy reign.**

Collect Prayer of the Day

A prayer to God that collects together the thoughts and theme of the day.

- P** 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.
- G** *♪* **Amen.**

✠ Scripture Readings ✠

Exodus 34:29-35

When Moses came down from Mount Sinai, with the two tablets of the testimony in his hand as he came down from the mountain, Moses did not know that the skin of his face shone because he had been

talking with God. ³⁰ Aaron and all the people of Israel saw Moses, and behold, the skin of his face shone, and they were afraid to come near him. ³¹ But Moses called to them, and Aaron and all the leaders of the congregation returned to him, and Moses talked with them. ³² Afterward all the people of Israel came near, and he commanded them all that the LORD had spoken with him in Mount Sinai. ³³ And when Moses had finished speaking with them, he put a veil over his face. ³⁴ Whenever Moses went in before the LORD to speak with him, he would remove the veil, until he came out. And when he came out and told the people of Israel what he was commanded, ³⁵ the people of Israel would see the face of Moses, that the skin of Moses' face was shining. And Moses would put the veil over his face again, until he went in to speak with him.

2 Corinthians 4:3-6

And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. ⁴ 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. ⁵ For what we proclaim is not ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord, with ourselves as your servants for Jesus' sake. ⁶ For God, who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

Confession of Faith

The Apostles' Creed

The Apostles' Creed is a summary of Christian faith as taught by the Apostles. We boldly confess what God has taught us to believe.

I BELIEVE...

in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth;

And in Jesus Christ His only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead and buried; He descended into hell; the third day He rose again

from the dead; He ascended into Heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost; the Holy Christian Church, the Communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen

Hymn: WS #720

"Oh, Wondrous Type! Oh, Vision Fair"

✠ The Sermon ✠

Mark 9:2-9

And after six days Jesus took with him Peter and James and John, and led them up a high mountain by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, ³ and his clothes became radiant, intensely white, as no one on earth could bleach them. ⁴ And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses, and they were talking with Jesus. ⁵ And Peter said to Jesus, "Rabbi, it is good that we are here. Let us make three tents, one for you and one for Moses and one for Elijah." ⁶ For he did not know what to say, for they were terrified. ⁷ And a cloud overshadowed them, and a voice came out of the cloud, "This is my beloved Son; listen to him." ⁸ And suddenly, looking around, they no longer saw anyone with them but Jesus only. ⁹ And as they were coming down the mountain, he charged them to tell no one what they had seen, until the Son of Man had risen from the dead.

The View from the Mount of Transfiguration Will:

- I. Leave you speechless
- II. Give you perspective
- III. Show you where you are going

