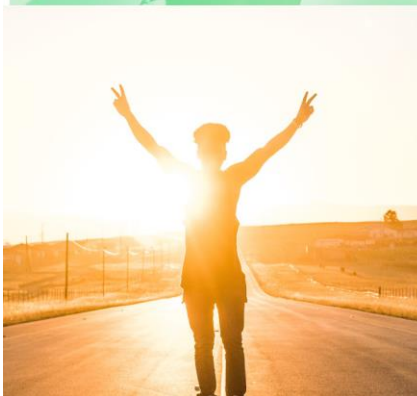


THE SERVANT OF THE LORD IS CALLED

To Shine in Darkness



THE SERVANT OF THE LORD IS CALLED

6) TO SHINE IN DARKNESS

Transfiguration Sunday
9:00 & 11:15am February 14, 2021



ROCK OF AGES

LUTHERAN CHURCH

Reaching Out in Rim Country with Rock-Solid Hope in Jesus

Welcome! May the message you hear today will fill your heart with the peace and joy we have in knowing that Jesus Christ is our Savior from sin.

Our Mission is to share the rock-solid hope of Jesus with today's world through timeless truths found in the Holy Scriptures.

Our Message centers around the forgiveness, freedom, and fellowship we have in Jesus.

Large Print service folders and **hearing assistance** devices are available.

Social Distancing is encouraged out of respect for all worshipping today. Volunteers are sanitizing touch points between services.

Restrooms are located at the far ends of the entry area.

Children's activity bags, quiet toys, and a changing table are available from the nursery in entry area.

We Support the world-wide gospel ministry of the WELS. We'd love to share more with you. Contact our pastor today. You can also visit wels.net



WELS

Christ's Love, Our Calling.



Divine Service II

WITH HOLY COMMUNION

Divine Service II is a version of the historic liturgy of the Christian church.

Hymn

God Himself Is Present

Christian Worship 224

♪ **God himself is present -- Let us now adore him
And with awe appear before him. God is in his temple --
All within keep silence, Humbly kneel in deepest rev'rence.
He alone On his throne Is our God and Savior; Praise his name forever!**

**2. God himself is present -- Hear the harps resounding;
See the hosts the throne surrounding. "Holy, holy, holy" --
Hear the hymn ascending, Songs of saints and angels blending.
Bow your ear To us here: Hear, O Christ, the praises
That your Church now raises.**

**3. Fount of ev'ry blessing, Purify my spirit,
Trusting only in your merit. Like the holy angels,
Worshiping before you, May I ceaselessly adore you.
Let your will Ever still Rule your church terrestrial As the hosts celestial.**

Invocation

In the name of the Father and of the Son (+) and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Confession

Dear friends, let us approach God with a true heart and confess our sins, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to forgive us.

Lord of life, I confess that I am by nature dead in sin. For faithless worrying and selfish pride, For sins of habit and sins of choice, For the evil I have done and the good I have failed to do, You should cast me away from your presence forever. O Lord, I am sorry for my sins. Forgive me, for Jesus' sake.

Absolution

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again. In his great mercy, God made us alive in Christ even when we were dead in our sins. Hear the word of Christ through his called servant: I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son (+) and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Lord, Have Mercy *Kyrie*

Mark 10:47

In peace, let us pray to the Lord. For the well-being of all people everywhere, that they may receive from you all they need to sustain body and life, hear our prayer, O Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the spread of your life-giving gospel throughout the world, that all who are lost in sin may be brought to faith in you, hear our prayer, O Christ.

Christ, have mercy.

For patience and perseverance in this life, that we may not lose the hope of heaven as we await your return, hear our prayer, O Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

Lord of life, live in us that we may live for you.

Amen.

Glory to God

Come and See

♪ **Come and see the glory of the Lord, Come behold the lamb.
Come and see the mercy of the King, Bowing down before him.**

**Come and give thanks unto the Lord, Come behold the Lamb.
Come and sing the praises of the King, Bowing down before him.**

**For he is Lord above the heavens Lord in all the earth.
Lord of all the angels, Worthy to be served.
Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord.**

THE WORD

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

Lord God, before the suffering and death of your one and only Son, you revealed his glory on the holy mountain. Grant that we who bear his cross on earth may behold by faith the light of his heavenly glory and so be changed into his likeness; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

First Lesson

2 Kings 2:1-12a

Elijah was the "chariot and its charioteers", the champion for ancient Israel.

Listen When the Lord was about to take Elijah up to heaven in a whirlwind, Elijah was traveling with Elisha from Gilgal. ²Elijah said to Elisha, "Stay here, for the Lord has sent me to Bethel."

But Elisha said, "As surely as the Lord lives and as your soul lives, I will not leave you." So they went down to Bethel.

³The sons of the prophets who were in Bethel came out to Elisha and said to him, "Do you know that today the Lord is taking your master away from you?"

Then he said, "Yes, I know. Be quiet."

⁴Then Elijah said to him, "Elisha, stay here because the Lord has sent me to Jericho."

But he said, "As surely as the Lord lives and as your soul lives, I will not leave you." So they went to Jericho.

⁵Then the sons of the prophets who were in Jericho approached Elisha and said to him, "Do you know that today the Lord is taking your master away from you?"

He said, "Yes, I know. Be quiet."

⁶Then Elijah said to him, "Stay here because the Lord has sent me to the Jordan."

But he said, "As surely as the Lord lives and as your soul lives, I will not leave you." So the two of them went on. ⁷Then fifty men from the sons of the prophets came

and stood and watched them from a distance, while the two of them were standing at the Jordan. ⁸Elijah took his cloak, folded it together, and struck the water. The water divided to the right and to the left. Then the two of them crossed on dry land.

⁹When they had crossed, Elijah said to Elisha, "Ask me for whatever I can do for you before I am taken from you."

Then Elisha said, "Let there be a double portion of your spirit on me."

¹⁰He said, "You have asked for a difficult thing. If you see me being taken from you, it will surely be yours. But if not, then it will not."

¹¹While they were walking and talking, suddenly a chariot of fire and horses of fire came and separated them. So Elijah went up to heaven in a whirlwind. ¹²Elisha was watching and crying out, "My father! My father! Israel's chariot and its charioteers!"

Psalm of the Day

Psalm 2

Christian Worship Hymnal Page 65



Great are the works of the Lord. Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le -



lu - ia! Great are the works of the Lord.

Psalm tone



Why do the nations conspire
and the peoples plot in vain?

The kings of the earth take their stand and the rulers gather together against
the LORD
and against his Anointed One. **Refrain**

The One enthroned in heaven laughs;
the Lord scoffs at them.

Then he rebukes them in his anger and terrifies them in his wrath, saying,

"I have installed my King on Zion, my holy hill."

I will proclaim the decree of the LORD:

He said to me, "You are my Son; today I have become your Father."

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning,
is now, and will be forever. Amen. *Refrain***

Second Lesson

2 Corinthians 4:3-6

The light of God's Word shines with power to create faith.

But even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled among those who are perishing. ⁴In the case of those people, the god of this age has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from clearly seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is God's image.

⁵Indeed, we do not preach ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord, and ourselves as your servants for Jesus' sake. ⁶For the God who said, "Light will shine out of darkness," is the same one who made light shine in our hearts to give us the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the person of Jesus Christ.

Children's Message

*All children 5th grade and under are invited to come to the front area.
Helpers and parents are welcome to join them.*

Verse of the Day

(Mark 9:7b)

Alleluia. A voice came from the cloud: "This is my Son, whom I love. Listen to him!"
Alleluia.

The Gospel according to Mark chapter 9.

Glory be to you, O Lord!

Gospel

Mark 9:2-9

The Father affirmed Jesus his Son as he neared the end of his earthly ministry.
After six days Jesus took Peter, James, and John with him and led them up a high

mountain where they were alone by themselves. There he was transfigured in front of them. ³His clothes became radiant, dazzling white, whiter than anyone on earth could bleach them. ⁴And Elijah appeared to them together with Moses, and they were talking with Jesus.

⁵Peter said to Jesus, "Rabbi, it is good for us to be here. Let us make three tents: one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." ⁶He did not know what to say because they were terrified.

⁷A cloud appeared and overshadowed them, and a voice came from the cloud, saying, "This is my Son, whom I love. Listen to him."

⁸Suddenly, when they looked around, they no longer saw anyone with them except Jesus alone.

⁹As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus commanded them not to tell anyone what they had seen until the Son of Man had risen from the dead.

After the Gospel:

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

Hymn of the Day

I Hear the Savior Calling

Christian Worship 560

♪ I hear the Savior calling! The gospel comes to me.
My eyes once closed in blindness Are opened now to see
That I myself was helpless To live eternally,
But, dying, Christ did save me, And now he calls for me!

2. I hear the Savior calling! He leads a soul to me,
A soul in bitter anguish, One needing to be free.
The gift I have to offer Is Christ, my Lord's decree
That all have been forgiven -- My Savior calls for me!

**3. I hear the Savior calling! He gives this charge to me:
To serve the best I'm able, Whate'er the call may be.
Thus hand in hand with others Who share the gospel key
We spread the gospel tidings -- My Savior calls for me!**

4. I hear the Savior calling! He changes hearts for me.
From door to door I witness To bring my Savior's plea;
Yet nothing can be added, No word on bended knee,
Beyond the simple gospel -- My Savior calls for me!

5. I hear the Savior calling! His call has urgency!
Each moment souls are dying; Soon comes eternity.
And so, my precious Savior, This is my humble plea:
Prepare me for my mission For you are calling me!

Sermon

2 Corinthians 4:3-6

The Servant of the Lord is Called

Jan. 10 ...to Bring Salvation *(Isaiah 49:1-6)*

Jan. 17 ...to Hold to Scripture *(2 Thess.2:13-17)*

Jan. 24 ...to Restore Peace *(2 Cor. 5:14-21)*

Jan. 31 ...to Confess Christ *(Heb 3:1-6)*

Feb. 07...to Endure Hardships *(1 Peter 5:6-11)*

Feb. 14...**To Shine in Darkness** *(2 Cor 4:3-6)*

Series for the Epiphany Season



We Praise You God

*Te Deum Laudamus
For Transfiguration Sunday*

We praise you, O God, we acclaim you as Lord;
All creation worships you, Father everlasting.

To you all angels, all the powers of heaven, cherubim and seraphim, sing in endless praise:
Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of heavenly hosts, heaven and earth are full of your glory.

The glorious company of apostles praise you.
The noble fellowship of prophets praise you.

The white robed army of martyrs praise you.
Throughout the world the holy Church acclaim you: Father of majesty unbounded, your glorious, true, and only Son, and the Holy Spirit, advocate and guide.

Christian Worship Supplement 746

- sung solo:

♪ You, Lord, are both Lamb and Shepherd.
You, Lord, are both prince and slave.
You, peacemaker and sword bringer
Of the way you took and gave.
You, the everlasting instant;
You, whom we both scorn and crave.

You, Christ, are the King of glory, the eternal Son of the Father.
sung by all:

♪ **Clothed in light upon the mountain,
Stripped of might upon the cross.
Shining in eternal glory,
Beggared by a soldier's toss.
You, the everlasting instant;
You, who are both gift and cost.**

When you became man to set us free, you humbled yourself to be born of a virgin.

You overcame the sting of death and opened the kingdom of heaven to all believers.

♪ **You, who walk each day beside us,
Sit in power at God's side.
You, who preach a way that's narrow,
Have a love that reaches wide.
You, the everlasting instant;
You, who are our pilgrim guide.**

You sit at the right hand of God in the glory of the Father.

We believe that you will come to be our judge.

Come then, Lord, and help your people, bought with the price of your own blood,

and bring us with your saints to glory everlasting.

♪ **Worthy is our earthly Jesus!
Worthy is our cosmic Christ!
Worthy your defeat and vict'ry!
Worthy still your peace and strife!
You, the everlasting instant;
You, who are our death and life.**

Offering

Moved by God's love in Christ, we offer him our first and best gifts, purely out of thanks to him. Our offerings go to support the gospel ministry of our congregation and our national church body, the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS). Today's offering can be placed on the entry table as you enter or exit.

Prayer of the Church

(St. Ambrose 340-397)

O Splendor of God's glory bright, You daily bring forth light from light.

**O Light from Light, light's fountain-spring, O Day, our days
enlightening:**

Come, very Sun of truth and love, Come in your radiance from above,
And shed the Holy Spirit's ray On all we think or do today.

Teach us to work with all our pow'r To conquer in temptation's hour.
Let faith her eager fires renew And hate the false and love the true.

Oh, joyful be the livelong day, Our thoughts as pure as morning ray,
**Our faith like noonday's glowing height, Our souls undimmed by
shades of night.**

-Special prayers may follow

THE SACRAMENT

Our Lord Jesus has given us a holy supper in which we receive his true body and blood for the forgiveness of sins and the strengthening of our faith. In this supper we celebrate the gift of his redemption, we bear witness to the fellowship we share as confessors of the truth, and we proclaim his death until he comes.

Preface

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 the Lord our God.

It is good and right so to do.

It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who came as the Light of the world so that the world

may have light and life through him. Therefore with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

Holy, Holy, Holy *Sanctus*

(Tune: CW 372; AURELIA)

♩ **O holy, holy, holy Lord God of pow'r and might,
Your glory, earth and heaven In countless ways recite.
Hosanna! Come and save us, Lord God of hosts on high,
And in your grace and mercy Receive our fervent cry.**

**Hosanna in the highest! How truly blest is he
Who in God's name is coming To set his people free!
He comes to bring salvation And with his blood outpoured,
Deliver us from bondage— Hosanna, mighty Lord!**

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Blessed are you, O Lord of heaven and earth. We praise and thank you for sending your Son, Jesus Christ, and we remember the great acts of love through which he has ransomed us from sin, death, and the devil's power.

By his incarnation, he became one with us. By his perfect life, he fulfilled your holy will. By his innocent death, he overcame hell. By his rising from the grave, he opened heaven.

Invited by your grace and instructed by your Word, we approach your table with repentant and joyful hearts. Strengthen us through Christ's body and blood, and preserve us in the true faith until we feast with him and all his ransomed people in glory everlasting.

Amen.

Lord's Prayer

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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us

from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

Words of Institution

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my (+) body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me." Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my (+) blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me." The peace of the Lord be with you always.

Amen.

Lamb of God *Agnus Dei*

♪ **Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.**

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us your peace.

Amen.

Distribution

Welcome guests! We follow the biblical practice of member communion. We kindly ask that before joining in the Lord's Supper you express full agreement with us in the faith through membership here or in a sister congregation of the WELS, Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod. We'd love to share more with you about our ministry. Talk to our pastor today. Thank you for respecting our beliefs!

Hymn *Nunc Dimittis*

Sung to the tune of CW 336

♪ **O Lord, now let your servant Depart in peace, assured:**

For I have seen your promised incarnate, saving Word—

A Light that will enlighten All gloom where Gentiles dwell;

The brilliant, crowning glory Of those in Israel!

We give you thanks, O Lord, for the foretaste of the heavenly banquet that you have given us to eat and to drink in this sacrament. Through this gift you have fed our faith, nourished our hope, and strengthened our love. By your Spirit help us to live as your holy people until that day when you will receive us as your guests at the wedding supper of the Lamb, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Blessing

Numbers 6:24-26

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look on you with favor and (+) give you peace.

Amen.

Hymn

Alleluia, Song of Triumph

Sung to the same tune as CWS 746

♪ Alleluia, song of triumph,
sound of joy that cannot die;
Alleluia is the anthem
ever dear to choirs on high;
Saints adorned in robes of glory
join the great angelic cry.

**2. Alleluia we are singing, voicing hymns in pure accord,
With Christ's holy Church united, justified, redeemed, restored,
And with all his faithful people raise our songs to praise the Lord.**

**3. Alleluia cannot always be our song while here below;
Alleluia our transgressions make us for a while forego.
For the solemn time is coming when our tears for sin must flow.**

**4. May our hymns be filled with longing – hear us, Holy Trinity,
As we look to your blest Easter, here, and then eternally,
When we shall once more be singing Alleluia joyfully!**

NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Remember with Prayer

- *Printed early, share your prayer requests*

Attendance

(not yet available, printed early)

Received in January \$14,007.82

Sunday Bible Study

Join us this month for a study on "The Millennium" This study will not be posted online, but booklets are available for anyone interested.

Midweek Bible Study

Join us in-person Thursdays at 9am. We are currently going through "Lessons from the Kings." Livestreamed on our Facebook page. The videos are also posted on our website.

Midweek Lent

6pm Services "Six Parts of the Catechism"

- Ash Wed. (Feb 17) – Ministry of the Keys
- Midweek 1 (Feb 24)- Ten Commandments
- Midweek 2 (March 3) – The Creed
- Midweek 3 (March 10) – The Lord's Prayer
- Midweek 4 (March 17) – Holy Baptism
- Midweek 5 (March 24) –Holy Communion

Acknowledgments

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CALENDAR

rockofages-payson.com/calendar

Sunday, February 14 *Transfiguration*

9:00 & 11:15m Service with Lord's Supper
10:05am Bible Study
12:30pm Youth Confirmation Class

Monday, February 15

6:00pm Council Meeting

Wednesday, February 17 *Ash Wednesday*

1:00pm Mary Martha meeting
6:00pm Ash Wed. Service

Thursday, February 18

9:00am Midweek Bible Class
10:00am Starting Point Class

Sunday, February 21 *Lent 1*

9:00 & 11:15m Service
10:05am Bible Study
12:30pm Youth Confirmation Class

Serving This Week

Flowers, Communion Setup: Pat Solomon
Music: Keyboard, Jeni Strickland; 4 For Christ; Mandolin, Peter Barthel
Presiding Minister: Tom Barthel
Ushers: Creig Solomon, Jerry Zuvich



RockofAges-Payson.com

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