THE TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD

AUGUST 6, 2023

Gospel

Matthew 17:1-9

Jesus took Peter, James, and his brother, John,

and led them up a high mountain by themselves.

And he was transfigured before them; his face shone like the sun and his clothes became white as light. And behold, Moses and Elijah appeared to

them, conversing with him.

Then Peter said to Jesus in reply, "Lord, it is good that we are here.

If you wish, I will make three tents here, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah."

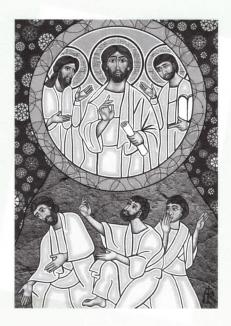
While he was still speaking, behold, a bright cloud cast a shadow over them, then from the cloud came a voice that said,

"This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased;

listen to him."

When the disciples heard this, they fell prostrate

and were very much afraid.



But Jesus came and touched them, saying, "Rise, and do not be afraid."

And when the disciples raised their eyes, they saw no one else but Jesus alone.

As they were coming down from the mountain,
Jesus charged them,
"Do not tell the vision to anyone until the Son of Man has been raised from the dead."

Readings for the week:

Sunday Transfiguration Dan 7:9-10, 13-14 Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 9 2 Pet 1:16-19 Matt 17:1-9

Monday Num 11:4b-15 Ps 81:12-13, 14-15, 16-17 Matt 14:13-21 Tuesday Num 12:1-13 Ps 51:3-4, 5-6ab, 6cd-7, 12-13 Matt 14:22-36 or Matt 15:1-2, 10-14

Wednesday Num 13:1-2, ab, 25-14:1, 26-3 29a, 34-35 6 Ps 106:6-7ab, :1-2, 13-14, 21-22, 23 Matt 15:21-28 Thursday St. Lawrence, Deacon and Martyr 2 Cor 9:6-10 Ps 112:1-2, 5-6, 7-8, 9 John 12:24-26

rence, Friday
and Deut 4:32:40
Ps 77:12:13, 1415, 16 and 21
Matt 16:24:28

Saturday Deut 6:4-13 Ps 18:2-3a, 3bc-4, 47 and 51 Matt 17:14-20 I 9th Sunday in Ord. Time 1 Kgs 19:9a, 11-13a Ps 85:9, 10, 11-12, 13-14 Rom 9:1-5 Matt 14:22-33





Opening Prayer

O God, who in the glorious Transfiguration of your Only Begotten Son confirmed the mysteries of faith by the witness of the Fathers and wonderfully prefigured our full adoption to sonship, grant, we pray, to your servants, that, listening to the voice of your beloved Son, we may merit to become co-heirs with him. Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Reflecting on Living the Gospel

In today's gospel from Matthew, Jesus takes Peter, James, and John high up on a mountain where they are given a glimpse of the Son of God glorified. This spectacular event proved to them that Jesus Christ was in fact the Messiah that the people of God had been waiting for. As Jesus was being transfigured before the three apostles, their perspective was being transformed as well. When we have powerful experiences of God through worship or community, it can transform the way we see everything.

The truth is that all of creation is imbued with the glory of God. All matter and all creatures are pulsing and are powered by God's spirit dwelling within them. Our sensitivity to that reality can weaken as we go about the ordinary business of being alive, but our lack of awareness doesn't make it any less true. In the book *Conjectures by a Guilty Bystander*, Trappist monk Thomas Merton writes, "There is no way to tell people that they are all walking around shining like the sun." This revelation came to him while he was walking down an ordinary street in Louisville, Kentucky. Of course, we cannot all walk around with this euphoric knowledge at the forefront of our minds at all times, but perhaps it is more accessible to us than we realize. Perhaps we can bring that knowledge into the moments of our lives that feel tiresome, monotonous, or purposeless and experience renewal.

When Jesus was transfigured before his disciples on the mountaintop, He was revealing to them a highly-concentrated truth about who he was. When we experience moments of transfiguration, may we carry those moments in our hearts to remind us of the inherent goodness of life, of creation, and of God.

Closing Prayer

Loving God, thank you for the gift of this day and the opportunity to grow in relationship with you. You call us your beloved. May we live this call as we remain faithful to your gospel and the way of discipleship. **Amen.**

For Reflection:

• What in your daily life makes it hard to experience God's presence and power? What tools do you use when Jesus's presence is not so obvious or emotional?

Suggestions for group and individual use:

- 1. Pray aloud the "Opening Prayer" (in *The Roman Missal* called the "collect").
- 2. One person read aloud the gospel.
- 3. Each read prayerfully "Reflecting on Living the Gospel" and spend some time in personal prayer.
- 4. Share together responses to "For Reflection."
- 5. Pray the "Closing Prayers."

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Living Liturgy™ Sunday Bulletin. Liturgical Press, Collegeville, Minnesota 56321. © 2023 by Order of Saint Benedict www.litpress.org 1-800-858-5450

2023

CALENDAR YEAR

AUGUST

CALENDAR MONTH

SUNDAY FIRST DAY OF WEEK

12 2nd Collect-Propagation of Faith 19 26 2nd Collect-Maintenance Fund Saturday •4:30pm Confession •4:30 Divine Mercy •4:30pm Confession •4:30pm Confession •4:30pm Confession Birthday Blessing •4:30 Divine Mercy •4:30 Divine Mercy •4:30 Divine Mercy •5:00 pm Mass •5:00 pm Mass •5:00 pm Mass 5:00 pm Mass 11 18 25 Daily Mass 6:30 am. Daily Mass 6:30 am. Daily Mass 6:30 am. Daily Mass 6:30 am. 17 10 24 31 Thursday Daily Mass 6:30 am. 16 60 23 30 Wednesday Daily Mass 6:30 am. Daily Mass 6:30 am. Daily Mass 6:30 am. Daily Mass 6:30 am. 08 15 22 29 Daily Mass 6:30 am. Tuesday 07 14 28 21 Monday 90 13 20 27 2nd Collect-Propagation of 2nd Collect-Maintenance Divine Mercy 8:00 am Divine Mercy 8:00am Divine Mercy 8:00am Divine Mercy 8:00 am Sunday Birthday Blessing • Mass - 8:30 am. Mass 8:30 a.m. Mass 8:30 am Mass 8:30 am Faith Fund