

Introduction to the day: Today's festival is a bridge between the Advent-Christmas-Epiphany cycle that comes to a close today and the Lent-Easter cycle that begins in several days. On a high mountain Jesus is revealed as God's beloved Son, echoing the words at his baptism. This vision of glory sustains us as Jesus faces his impending death in Jerusalem. We turn this week to Ash Wednesday and our yearly baptismal journey from Lent to Easter. Some churches put aside the alleluia at the conclusion of today's liturgy. This word of joy will be omitted during the penitential season of Lent and will be sung again at Easter.

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the diverse people of God.

OPENING SONG/PRELUDE

You are Mine ©Third Day

(sung by Wing & A Prayer only)

WELCOME

The congregation is invited to stand as they are able and to face the baptismal font.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✠ one God,
who makes all things new,
whose mercy endures forever.

Amen.

Trusting in God's mercy, let us confess our sin.

Holy One, source of our renewal,

**we confess that we are wrapped up in sin,
and cannot free ourselves.**

We have not practiced your righteousness.

Our hearts have turned away from you.

**For the sake of the world you so love,
forgive us,**

**that we may be reconciled to one another
for the glory of your holy name.**

Amen.

Thus says our God:

"The former things have come to pass
and new things I now declare."

God's mercy makes us new.

We are forgiven in the name of ✠ Christ our Savior.

Amen.

Please remain standing and turn to face the altar as you are able.

GATHERING SONG

Come as You Are

©Ben Glover, Matt Maher, Dave Crowder

Lyrics on following page

Verse 1 Come out of sadness from wherever you've been
Come broken-hearted let rescue begin
Come find your mercy o sinner come kneel
Earth has no sorrow that heaven can't heal
Earth has no sorrow that heaven can't heal

Chorus (so) lay down your burdens lay down your shame
All who are broken lift up your face
O wanderer come home
You're not too far
So lay down your hurt lay down your heart
Come as you are

Verse 2 There's hope for the hopeless
And all those who've strayed
Come sit at the table come taste the grace
There's rest for the weary
Rest that endures
Earth has no sorrow that heaven can't cure

Bridge Come as you are
Fall in his arms
Come as you are

Verse 3 There's joy for the morning o sinner be still
Earth has no sorrow that heaven can't heal
Earth has no sorrow that heaven can't heal

Ending Come as you are
Come as you are
Come as you are

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.



Leader

In peace, let us pray
to the Lord

CONGREGATION

Lord. have mer cy,
Christ have mer - cy,
Lord have mer - cy.

2

Leader

For the peace from above,
and for our salvation, let us pray
to the Lord

CONGREGATION

Lord_ have mer- cy,
Christ have mer- cy,
Lord have mer - cy.

Leader

For peace in the world,
for the health of God's church,
and for all unity, let us pray
to the Lord

CONGREGATION

Lord_ have mer-cy
Christ have mer - cy,
Lord have mer - cy.

Leader

For this holy house,
and we who offer praise, let us pray
to the Lord

CONGREGATION

Lord_ have mer cy,
Christ have mer - cy,
Lord have mer - cy.

Leader

Help, save, comfort and defend us,
gracious Lord

CONGREGATION

Lord. have mer- cy,
Christ have mer - cy,
A - - - - men

This is the feast of vic-tor-y
 Feast of vic-tory for our God.
 This is the feast of vic-tor-y
 Al-le-lu-ia, Al-le-lu-ia
 Wor- thy is the
 Lamb who was slain
 His blood to set us free
 Peo-ple of God to serve the Lord
 Serve the Lord for e-ver.
 Po-wer, rich-es,
 wis-dom, strength
 Hon-or, bless-ing, glo-ry

All be-long to God on high.
 Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia!
 This is the feast of vic-tor-y
 Feast of vic-tory for our God.

This is the feast of vic-tor-y
 Al-le-lu-ia, Al-le-lu-ia
 Sing with all God's
 ho-ly peo-ple
 Join the hy-mn of
 all cre-a-tion
 Bless-ing, hon-or,
 glo-ry, mi-ght
 Be to God and the
 Lamb for-ev-er
 A-men! A-men!

This is the feast of vic-tor-y
 Feast of vic-tory for our God.
 For the Lamb who once was slain
 Has be-gun his reign forev-er.
 A - - - - men!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. O God, in the transfiguration of your Son you confirmed the mysteries of the faith by the witness of Moses and Elijah, and in the voice from the bright cloud declaring Jesus your beloved Son, you foreshadowed our adoption as your children. Make us heirs with Christ of your glory, and bring us to enjoy its fullness, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

FIRST READING: Exodus 24:12-18 (Loraine Anderson)

At Mount Sinai, Moses experienced the presence of God for forty days and forty nights. The “glory of the LORD” settled on the mountain, and on the seventh day God called out to Moses. On the mountain God gave Moses the stone tablets inscribed with the ten commandments.

A reading from Exodus.

¹²The LORD said to Moses, “Come up to me on the mountain, and wait there; and I will give you the tablets of stone, with the law and the commandment, which I have written for their instruction.” ¹³So Moses set out with his assistant Joshua, and Moses went up into the mountain of God. ¹⁴To the elders he had said, “Wait here for us, until we come to you again; for Aaron and Hur are with you; whoever has a dispute may go to them.”

¹⁵Then Moses went up on the mountain, and the cloud covered the mountain. ¹⁶The glory of the LORD settled on Mount Sinai, and the cloud covered it for six days; on the seventh day he called to Moses out of the cloud. ¹⁷Now the appearance of the glory of the LORD was like a devouring fire on the top of the mountain in the sight of the people of Israel. ¹⁸Moses entered the cloud, and went up on the mountain. Moses was on the mountain for forty days and forty nights.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 2 (Loraine Anderson)

¹Why are the nations in an uproar? Why do the peoples mutter empty threats?

²**Why do the kings of the earth rise up in revolt, and the princes plot together, against the LORD and against the LORD’s anointed?**

³“Let us break their yoke,” they say; “let us cast off their bonds from us.”

⁴**God whose throne is in heaven is laughing; the LORD holds them in derision.**

⁵Then in wrath God speaks to them, and in rage fills them with terror.

⁶**“As for me, I have anointed my king upon Zion, my holy mountain.”**

⁷Let me announce the decree of the LORD,
who said to me, “You are my son; this day have I begotten you.

⁸**Ask of me, and I will give you the nations for your inheritance and the ends of the earth for your possession.**

⁹You shall crush them with an iron rod and shatter them like a piece of pottery.”

¹⁰**And now, you kings, be wise; be warned, you rulers of the earth.**

¹¹Submit to the LORD with fear, and with trembling bow in worship;

¹²**lest the LORD be angry, and you perish in a sudden blaze of wrath.
Happy are all who take refuge in God!**

SECOND READING: 2 Peter 1:16-21 (Loraine Anderson)

At the transfiguration, God’s voice was heard, declaring Jesus to be the beloved Son. By the activity of the Holy Spirit, God’s voice continues to be heard through the word of scripture.

A reading from 2 Peter.

¹⁶For we did not follow cleverly devised myths when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we had been eyewitnesses of his majesty. ¹⁷For he received honor and glory from God the Father when that voice was conveyed to him by the Majestic Glory, saying, "This is my Son, my Beloved, with whom I am well pleased." ¹⁸We ourselves heard this voice come from heaven, while we were with him on the holy mountain.

¹⁹So we have the prophetic message more fully confirmed. You will do well to be attentive to this as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts.

²⁰First of all you must understand this, that no prophecy of scripture is a matter of one's own interpretation, ²¹because no prophecy ever came by human will, but men and women moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

KIDS' MESSAGE

(Pr. Carolyn Brodt)

The congregation is invited to stand as they are able to welcome the Gospel

GOSPEL: Matthew 17:1-9

(Pr. Carolyn Brodt)

Shortly before he enters Jerusalem, where he will be crucified, Jesus is revealed to Peter, James, and John in a mountaintop experience of divine glory called the transfiguration.

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain, by themselves. ²And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became dazzling white. ³Suddenly there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him. ⁴Then Peter said to Jesus, "Lord, it is good for us to be here; if you wish, I will make three dwellings here, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." ⁵While he was still speaking, suddenly a bright cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud a voice said, "This is my Son, the Beloved; with him I am well pleased; listen to him!" ⁶When the disciples heard this, they fell to the ground and were overcome by fear. ⁷But Jesus came and touched them, saying, "Get up and do not be afraid." ⁸And when they looked up, they saw no one except Jesus himself alone.

⁹As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus ordered them, "Tell no one about the vision until after the Son of Man has been raised from the dead."

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated

SERMON

(Pr. Carolyn Brodt)

The congregation is invited to stand as they are able

HYMN OF THE DAY *God, Bless the Hands* (ACS 1022)



1 God, bless the hands stretched out in love through floods be - low and
2 Bring com - fort to the hearts that mourn, left bro - ken, emp - tied
3 O God, our strength and ref - uge sure, our hope while storms of



storms a - bove; they search and res - cue, com - fort, calm, give
by the storm. Give hope to those in deep - est grief; em -
life en - dure: teach us to live in har - mo - ny with



shel - ter, of - fer heal - ing balm. Oh, guard them by your
pow - er us to bring re - lief. To you, O God, we
earth and riv - er, sky and sea, pre - serv - ing wa - ters,



stead - fast hand; reach out in love to help us stand.
raise our hands. Save us, we pray, from sink - ing sands.
air, and lands as ho - ly work for hu - man hands.

CREED

Let us join with Christians throughout the world in this Epiphany Season and confess our shared faith using the words of the Apostles' Creed.

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

I believe in Jesus Christ,

God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,

**the holy catholic church, the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting.**

Amen.

Please be seated

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION (Loraine Anderson)

Called together to follow Jesus, we pray for the church, the world, and all in need. Embolden your church as it witnesses to the majesty and mercy of your Son. Equip lay preachers, deacons, and pastors. Move us to share our stories of your faithfulness and forgiveness; may our lives proclaim your greatness. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

Dwell with your whole creation, from the tallest mountain peak to the deepest valley. Bless the work of conservation organizations and protect vital habitats. Support the work of disaster relief agencies around the world especially those working right now in Turkey and Syria. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

Guide and give wisdom to all in authority: our mayors and local leaders, Governor Newsom and state legislators, President Biden and national legislators. Bring freedom and justice to all nations. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

Give shelter to those lacking safe homes. Spur communities to work for fair housing for all. Protect our neighbors whose dwellings do not keep out dangerous cold or heat; accompany with your touch those who are homebound, sick, or isolated. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

Make us eager to receive your Word in scripture. Help us recognize Jesus' voice in the needs of our neighbors; make us confident to follow the way of the cross. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

Receive our thanksgiving for the holy ones who have guided us in faithfulness and gathered even the unlikely as your people. With our forebears in faith and all who have hoped in you, teach us to wait with courage until the promised day dawns. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

(Prayer requests provided by congregation to be added here by Reader)

We bring to you our needs and hopes, O God, trusting your wisdom and power revealed in Christ crucified.
Amen.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

OFFERING

*We acknowledge that all we have is a gift from God and in gratefulness we return to God a portion of the time, finances, and gifts that God has given us.
Thank you so much for your continued support.*

OFFERING PRAYER

Liberating God,
you break the bonds of injustice and let the oppressed go free. Receive these offerings in thanksgiving for all your works of merciful power and shape us as people of your justice and freedom. You we magnify and adore, through Jesus our Savior,
Amen.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Blessed are you, O holy God: you are the Life and Light of all.
By your powerful word you created all things.
Through the prophets you called your people
to be a light to the nations.

Blessed are you for Jesus, your Son.
He is your Light, shining in our darkness and revealing to us your mercy and might.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore,
his preaching and healing,
his dying and rising,
and his promise to come again,
we await that day when all the universe will rejoice in your holy and life-giving light.

By your Spirit bless us and this meal, that, refreshed with this heavenly food,
we may be light for the world, revealing the brilliance of your Son.

Through him all glory and honor is yours, Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit,
in your holy Church, both now and forever.

Amen

LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us using the language of your heart.
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.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Come and taste the joy of God!

All are welcome to join in our communion celebration.
Please follow the directions of Pastor Carolyn and the ushers.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Holy One,
we thank you for the healing
that springs forth abundantly from this table.
Renew our strength to do justice,
love kindness,
and journey humbly with you.
Amen.

The congregation is invited to stand as they are able.

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

BLESSING

The God who faithfully brings forth justice
and breaks the oppressor's rod
✠ bless, strengthen, and uphold you,
today and always.
Amen.

SENDING SONG

Beautiful One

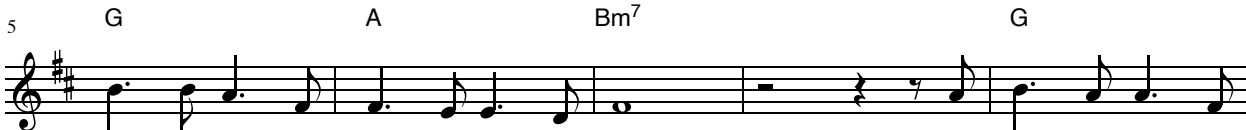
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♩ = 122 VERSE

G A D/F#



1. Won - der-ful, so won - der-ful, is Your un-fail - ing — love. Your
2. Pow - er-ful, so pow - er-ful, Your glo - ry fills the — skies, Your



cross has spo - ken mer - cy o - ver me. No eye has seen, no
might - y works dis - played for all to see. The beau - ty of Your



ear has heard, no heart could ful - ly — know how glo - ri - ous, how
maj - es - ty a - wakes my heart to — sing. How mar - vel - ous, how

14 **CHORUS**

A D G A

beau - ti - ful You are. Beau - ti - ful One, I love You, beau - ti - ful
won - der - ful You are.

19 G A G

One, I a - dore, beau - ti - ful One, my

22 A D

Last time to Coda

soul must _____ sing.

25 **BRIDGE 1**

2. D.S. 3. G

Beau - ti - ful You o - pened my eyes _ to Your won -

28 A G A

- ders a - new. _ You cap - tured my heart _ with this _ love, 'cause noth -

31 1. G A D

- ing on earth _ is as beau - ti - ful _ as You. _ You o -

35 2. G A D D.S. al Coda

- thing on earth _ is as beau - ti - ful _ as You. _ Beau - ti - ful

Coda
D

BRIDGE 2

39

My soul, my soul must sing. My soul, .

42

G/B

A/C#

G

A

my soul must sing. My soul, my soul must sing, beau-ti-ful

46

D

1.

2.

CHORUS

G

One. My soul, Beau-ti-ful One, I

50

A

G

A

love You, beau-ti-ful One, I a-dore, beau-ti-ful

53

G

A

D

One, my soul must sing.

Please be seated.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

After brief announcements related to the ministry of Bethel, the congregation is invited to stand and face the font.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Follow the way of Jesus.
Thanks be to God and we will.