

FOR THE WEEKEND OF FEB. 28-MAR. 1, 2026

Second Sunday of Lent

Gospel Reading

Mt 17:1-9

After six days Jesus took Peter, James, and John his brother, 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."

Intercession

When we are confused or frightened, let us remember to bring our concerns to the Lord. And may we share this consolation with others by prayerfully considering a gift to the **Annual Appeal**.

Copy for Bulletin Announcement

When the disciples drop their nets to follow Jesus to accompany him in his ministry, they first call him “teacher” and “rabbi.” Gradually, their perception of him begins to change, and they see him as others see him—as a prophet. Then this understanding deepens further; they recognize Jesus as the Messiah the world has been waiting for. All along, Christ has been revealing his divinity to his disciples, teaching them that their discipleship comes with a cost, and preparing them for his coming suffering and death.

For Peter, James, and John, the Transfiguration is “proof positive” that Jesus is the fulfillment of what the prophets have been promising. If Jesus’ face shining like the sun and his clothes becoming white as light is not telling enough, the voice of the Father clearly states, “This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him.” Talk about a teachable moment!

Light dispels darkness. The hope of the resurrection is stronger than the pain of the Passion. Initiatives like the **Annual Appeal** make tangible God’s light and love and give hope to those in our community who need it the most. Please prayerfully consider if this is one way you can share the promise of the resurrection by making a gift today.

Copy for Pulpit Announcement

The unknown can be frightening. Consider the disciples accompanying Jesus on the mountain in today’s Gospel. First, they see their friend and teacher transformed before their eyes. He becomes the embodiment of light. Then Moses and Elijah appear out of nowhere to talk with Jesus. When Peter suggests a course of action, he is corrected. The skies cloud over and a voice from the heavens confirms what they have gradually come to understand—Jesus is more than their teacher; he is the Son of God—and instructs them to listen to him.

Peter, James, and John are understandably scared. It’s a lot to process. In times of uncertainty, we can try to go it alone, or we can turn to Our Lord, who invites us to take his yoke upon our shoulders to find rest (Matthew 11:29). We can find solace in the Holy Eucharist. The Body of Christ is God made present. In it, Our Lord is with us, actively transforming our hearts and the world.

Jesus wants to be our refuge when we feel alone, are frightened, and suffer: “Come to me, all you who labor and are burdened, and I will give you rest (Matthew 11:28). What a relief. By supporting initiatives that provide Christ’s sheltering love to those in need, we can help the frightened and suffering of his flock. Please prayerfully consider a gift to the **Annual Appeal**.



Social Media Post/Content

Photo: Radiant beams of light shining from soft clouds.

Header: “This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him.”– Matthew 17:5

Copy: Invite Jesus into your decision-making. Please support the **Annual Appeal**, which brings the Word of God to others.