

Readings + Transfiguration of Our Lord, year C + March 2, 2025

Prayer of the Day

Holy God, mighty and immortal, you are beyond our knowing, yet we see your glory in the face of Jesus Christ. Transform us into the likeness of your Son, who renewed our humanity so that we may share in his divinity, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen

First Reading Exodus 34:29-35

²⁹ Moses came down from Mount Sinai. As he came down from the mountain with the two tablets of the covenant in his hand, Moses did not know that the skin of his face shone because he had been talking with God. ³⁰ When Aaron and all the Israelites saw Moses, the skin of his face was shining, 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 spoke with them. ³² Afterward all the Israelites came near, and he gave them in commandment all that the LORD had spoken with him on Mount Sinai. ³³ When Moses had finished speaking with them, he put a veil on his face; ³⁴ but whenever Moses went in before the LORD to speak with the LORD, he would take the veil off until he came out; and when he came out and told the Israelites what he had been commanded, ³⁵ the Israelites would see the face of Moses, that the skin of his face was shining; and Moses would put the veil on his face again, until he went in to speak with the LORD.

Psalmody Psalm 99

The LORD is king; let the people tremble. The LORD is enthroned upon the cherubim; let the earth shake.

The LORD, great in Zion, is high above all peoples.

Let them confess God's name, which is great and awesome; God is the Holy One.

O mighty king, lover of justice, you have established equity; you have executed justice and righteousness in Jacob.

Proclaim the greatness of the LORD and fall down before God's footstool; God is the Holy One.

Moses and Aaron among your priests, and Samuel among those who call upon your name, O LORD; they called upon you, and you answered them,

you spoke to them out of the pillar of cloud; they kept your testimonies and the decree that you gave them.

O LORD our God, you answered them indeed; you were a God who forgave them, yet punished them for their evil deeds.

Proclaim the greatness of the LORD and worship upon God's holy hill; for the LORD our God is the Holy One.

Second Reading 2 Corinthians 3:12-4:2

Paul writes: ¹² Since, then, we have such a hope, we act with complete frankness, ¹³ not like Moses, who put a veil over his face to keep the people of Israel from gazing at the end of the glory that was being set aside. ¹⁴ But their minds were hardened. Indeed, to this very day, when they hear the reading of the old covenant, that same veil is still there; since only in Christ is it set aside. ¹⁵ Indeed, to this very day whenever Moses is read, a veil lies over their minds; ¹⁶ but when one turns to the Lord, the veil is removed. ¹⁷ Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. ¹⁸ And all of us, with unveiled faces, seeing the glory of the Lord as though reflected in a mirror, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another, for this comes from the Lord, the Spirit.

4 ¹ Therefore, since it is by God's mercy that we are engaged in this ministry, we do not lose heart. ² We have renounced the shameful, underhanded ways; we refuse to practice cunning or to falsify God's word; but by the open statement of the truth we commend ourselves to the conscience of everyone in the sight of God.

Holy Gospel Luke 9:28-36 [37-43a]

Matthew, Mark, and Luke:

²⁸ Now about eight days after these sayings Jesus took Peter and John and James with him and went up on the mountain to pray. ²⁹ And while he was praying, the appearance of his face changed, and his clothes became bright as a flash of lightning. ³⁰ Suddenly they saw two men, Moses and Elijah, talking to him.

Luke only:

³¹ They appeared in glory and were speaking about his exodus, which he was about to fulfill in Jerusalem. ³² Now Peter and his companions were weighed down with sleep, but as they awoke they saw the glory of Jesus and the two men who stood with him. ³³ Just as the men were leaving him,

Matthew, Mark, and Luke:

Peter said to Jesus, “Master, it is good for us to be here; let us set up three tents: one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah,” not realizing what he was saying. ³⁴ While Peter was saying this, a cloud came and overshadowed them;

Luke only:

and they were terrified as they entered the cloud.

Matthew, Mark, and Luke (Mk and Mt: “beloved Son”):

³⁵ Then from the cloud came a voice that said, “This is my Son, my Chosen; listen to him!”

³⁶ When the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone.

Luke only (in Mk and Mt Jesus tells them to keep silent):

And τPeter, James, and John kept silent and in those days told no one any of the things they had seen.

All three synoptics tell this healing story after the Transfiguration. Mark’s is by far the most detailed and the longest, but only Luke’s account is included in the lectionary for Transfiguration Sunday and even then it’s only listed as optional verses.

[³⁷ On the next day, when they had come down from the mountain, a great crowd met Jesus. ³⁸ Just then a man from the crowd shouted, “Teacher, I beg you to look at my son; he is my only child. ³⁹ Suddenly a spirit seizes him, and all at once he shrieks. It convulses him until he foams at the mouth; it mauls him and will scarcely leave him. ⁴⁰ I begged your disciples to cast it out, but they could not.” ⁴¹ Jesus answered, “You faithless and perverse generation, how much longer must I be with you and put up with you? Bring your son here.” ⁴² While he was being brought forward, the demon dashed him to the ground in convulsions. But Jesus rebuked the unclean spirit, healed the boy, and gave him back to his father. ^{43a} And all were astounded at the greatness of God.]