

Three prayers adapted from St. Gregory the Sinaite (c. 1265–c. 1337)

Lord Jesus, consider us worthy always to walk forward in the light of your face. Today, in the light of your Transfiguration, let us see you as the Father's light that never sets. Enlighten our eyes in the brilliant radiance of your divinity, so that we may not fall asleep in the darkness of eternal death. Make the light of joy rise for us, the light of truth, the light of knowledge. Amen.

O God, you light our darkened lamp and untended mind. You lighten the darkness of our ignorance to gaze on you and sing your praise and your glory. Let the light from your Son's face that shone forth on Tabor be a sign for us. Let our minds be transfigured in the light of his glory. Intoxicate us by the living waters of your love, now and in the life to come. Amen.

Lord Christ, lead us up onto the mountain of vision. Shine upon us like the sun, appear before us through your goodness, and gather our minds and hearts towards you as you did with Moses and Elijah. Shine upon us with your sparks of brilliant light as you did on the three disciples. Shine your light upon all of us, work your divine energy in us, enlighten us with your grace and pour out your love for us all, which is also the love of the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Four prayers from the Western church

O God, who in the glorious Transfiguration of your only-begotten Son confirmed the mysteries of the faith by the testimony of Moses and Elijah, and who in the voice that came from the bright cloud foreshowed in a wonderful manner our adoption as your children: mercifully grant to make us with Christ our king co-heirs of his glory, and bring us to the enjoyment of that same glory; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

—traditional Latin collect for the feast of the Transfiguration possibly by Pope Callixtus III (1455–1458)

O merciful and everlasting God, heavenly Father, we thank you that you have revealed to us the glory of your Son and let the light of your gospel shine on us. We pray that you would guide us by this light, that we may walk diligently as Christians in all good works, always be strengthened by your grace, and conduct our lives in all godliness; through your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

—first Lutheran collect for the Sunday of the Transfiguration by Veit Dietrich (1548)

O God, whose blessed Son was manifested that he might destroy the works of the devil, and make us children of God and heirs of eternal life: grant us, we beseech you, that, having this hope, we may purify ourselves, even as he is pure; and that, when he shall appear again with power and great glory, we may be made like him in his eternal and glorious kingdom; where with you, Father, and you, Holy Spirit, he lives and reigns, ever one God, unto the ages of ages. Amen.

—collect for the Transfiguration in the *Book of Common Prayer* (1662) by Bishop John Cosin of Durham

O God, who on the mountain revealed to chosen witnesses your only-begotten Son wonderfully transfigured in raiment white and glistening: mercifully grant that we, being delivered from the disquietude of this world, may be permitted to behold the King in his beauty, who with you, O Father, and you, O Holy Spirit, lives and reigns, one God, forever and ever. Amen.

—collect for the Transfiguration in the American edition of the *Book of Common Prayer* (1892) by William Reed Huntington

A responsive liturgy based on a homily of Anastasius of Sinai (c. 7th century)

How tremendous is this place!

This is the mountain from which Christ, the sun of justice, shone forth.

This is the mountain the angels celebrate in song.

This is the mountain about which the prophets speak.

This is the mountain that enlightens fishermen.

This is the mountain that makes the foolish wise.

Because of this mountain,

the hills leap for joy.

Because of this mountain,

the valleys burst into bloom.

The rivers clap their hands for it,

the seas honor it,

the clouds thunder their approval,

the birds voice their praise.

This mountain is the place of mysteries,

this mountain is the place of the ineffable.

This rock is the rock of hidden things,

this summit is the summit of the heavens.

Here on this mountain

the signs of the kingdom are shown beforehand,

the mysteries of the crucifixion are communicated in advance,

the beauty of the resurrection is revealed,

the return of Christ is anticipated.

Another responsive liturgy based on a homily of Anastasius of Sinai.

I stand today joyfully on this holy peak celebrating.
I cry in a loud voice from this mountain,
inviting all the mountains to worship God,
Mount Sinai, Mount Zion, the Mount of Olives,
that many other mountains might skip for joy as well:
the mountains of the North, the mountains of the West,
the mountains of the South, the mountains of the East,
the mountains of the islands, all the mountains of the earth:
Worship Christ our God, bowing your peaks towards Mount Tabor!

Join in the songs of praise
and in the joyful celebration of Christ with a single voice,
singing to him together and saying:

Hail, Christ our Lord,
divinely born bearer of light,
who gave shape to all creation
and redeems it into something better still!

Hail, Mount Tabor,
icon of the heavenly Kingdom,
beautiful with a loveliness beyond all mountains!

Hail, children of Christ!
Boast of all the faithful peoples of the church,
for this celebration is a time of joy and happiness!

Dance with one soul and one voice with the angels,
move in a circle with the stars,
proclaim the word with the Apostles,
lead the way with Moses,
cry out with Elijah,
reveal the truth from the peak,
thunder from the cloud,
bear witness from heaven,
shout from the mountaintop,
trumpet forth from the rock,
invite Nazareth and call Galilee together;

make your festival brilliant,
deck yourself with speeches of praise,
shine out with lamps,
skip with the mountains,
dance with the maidens,
resound with the sea,
walk up on the mountaintop,
celebrate on Mount Tabor
with Christ, the universal King,
the true God,
our Lord Jesus Christ!
For to him be glory for the ages of ages.
Amen.

The prayers adapted from St. Gregory the Sinaite and the liturgies adapted from Anastasius of Sinai are based on their homilies as found in *Light on the Mountain: Greek Patristic and Byzantine Homilies on the Transfiguration of the Lord*, trans. Brian E. Daley SJ, Popular Patristic Series 48 (Yonkers: St. Vladimir's Seminary Press, 2013). You are free to use and adapt these resources in any way you like, but please site the source for these two if you use them. The other prayers are in the public domain.