

Jerusalem to die for us. In the word that we hear, this very Jesus comes to us offering his grace and forgiveness.

Some think only Matthew, Mark and Luke write about the Transfiguration, and John doesn't. I'm not so sure. I think John does speak about it. Here's what he says:

The word became flesh and dwelt among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only who came from the Father, full of grace and truth. (John 1:14)

Jesus is the glory of God. He's the portal through which you and I can step into heaven. He's the gate. He's the way and the truth and the life. That's what the Transfiguration is telling us. So, what do we do about it? We simply receive him by faith. Here's what John says:

"To all who received him, to all who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God." (John 1:12)

There's much in the Christian faith that's mystery. The Trinity is mystery. How God works through Holy Baptism is mystery. How bread and wine become for us the body and blood of Jesus is mystery. How Jesus can shine with the glory of God in one moment and then appear as an ordinary man the next is a mystery.

But we can all understand a door. In the Transfiguration, Jesus appears to us as the glorious, radiant, brilliantly lighted door to heaven. We all know what to do with a door. What do we do with a door? We go through it. If we want to spend our forever with God, if we want to at the campfire that never ends, we get there through Jesus, that shining door.

We pray:

[Lord Jesus] we pray Thee, bring us by Thy grace to see Thy glory face to face. Amen.

(From LSB # 413, Sarum Breviary)