



**WESTMINSTER
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD
COMMUNION SUNDAY**
14 February 2021 10:00 a.m.

Welcome and Announcements

Rev. Dr. Blythe D. Kieffer

Voluntary

The Transfiguration
(based on the Introit for the Feast of the Transfiguration)

Dom Paul Benoit

***Ringing of the Bell**

The congregation rises at the ringing of the Tower Bell.

***Call to Worship**

Rev. Christian K. Choi

The glory of God shines like a consuming fire.
We have seen the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.
The voice of God thunders like a mighty storm.
Out of the clouds, God speaks:
This is my beloved Son; listen to him!

***Hymn**

Swiftly Pass the Clouds of Glory

Geneva

Swiftly pass the clouds of glory, heaven's voice, the dazzling light;
Moses and Elijah vanish; Christ alone commands the height!
Peter, James, and John fall silent, turning from the summit's rise
downward toward the shadowed valley where their Lord has fixed his eyes.

Glimpsed and gone the revelation, they shall gain and keep its truth,
not by building on the mountain any shrine or sacred booth,
but to following the Savior through the valley to the cross
and by testing faith's resilience through betrayal, pain, and loss.

Lord, transfigure our perception with the purest light that shines,
and recast our life's intentions to the shape of your designs,
till we seek no other glory than what lies past Calvary's hill
and our living and our dying and our rising by your will.

***Prayer of Confession**

God of all glory, beauty, and grace, we have tried to hide from you, to hide our faces, to hide our sin; yet you have never hidden your love for us. We have tried to search for you in temples, in clouds, on mountaintops, yet you have already revealed yourself to us in the face of Jesus Christ. Forgive us and transform us so that our lives may shine with your glory, beauty, and grace. Hear now our silent prayers of confession.

***Sung Response**

Lord, Have Mercy Upon Us

***Declaration of Pardon** Friends, believe the good news: in Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.
The peace of Christ be with you. Thanks be to God. Amen.

***Response of Praise** Gloria Patri

Children's Sermon

Response I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light

Houston

I want to walk as a child of the light. I want to follow Jesus.
God set the stars to give light to the world. The star of my life is Jesus.
In him there is no darkness at all. The night and the day are both alike.
The Lamb is the light of the city of God. Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.

First Scripture Reading 2 Kings 2:1-12

Now when the Lord was about to take Elijah up to heaven by a whirlwind, Elijah and Elisha were on their way from Gilgal. Elijah said to Elisha, "Stay here; for the Lord has sent me as far as Bethel." But Elisha said, "As the Lord lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So they went down to Bethel. The company of prophets who were in Bethel came out to Elisha, and said to him, "Do you know that today the Lord will take your master away from you?" And he said, "Yes, I know; keep silent." Elijah said to him, "Elisha, stay here; for the Lord has sent me to Jericho." But he said, "As the Lord lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So they came to Jericho. The company of prophets who were at Jericho drew near to Elisha, and said to him, "Do you know that today the Lord will take your master away from you?" And he answered, "Yes, I know; be silent." Then Elijah said to him, "Stay here; for the Lord has sent me to the Jordan." But he said, "As the Lord lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So the two of them went on. Fifty men of the company of prophets also went, and stood at some distance from them, as they both were standing by the Jordan. Then Elijah took his mantle and rolled it up and struck the water; the water was parted to the one side and to the other, until the two of them crossed on dry ground. When they had crossed, Elijah said to Elisha, "Tell me what I may do for you, before I am taken from you." Elisha said, "Please let me inherit a double share of your spirit." He responded, "You have asked a hard thing; yet, if you see me as I am being taken from you, it will be granted you; if not, it will not." As they continued walking and talking, a chariot of fire and horses of fire separated the two of them, and Elijah ascended in a whirlwind into heaven. Elisha kept watching and crying out, "Father, father! The chariots of Israel and its horsemen!" But when he could no longer see him, he grasped his own clothes and tore them in two pieces. Amen.

Music Only Hope

Jonathan Foreman

There's a song that's inside of my soul;
it's the one that I've tried to write over and over again.
I'm awake in the infinite cold;
but You sing to me over and over and over again.
So I lay my head back down, and I lift my hands
and pray to be yours, O God, I know now You're my only hope.

Sing to me the song of the stars,
of Your galaxy dancing and laughing and laughing again.
When it feels like my dreams are so far,
sing to me of the plans that you have for me over again.

I give You my destiny. I'm giving You all of me.
I want Your symphony singing in all that I am.
At the top of my lungs, I'm giving it back.
So I lay my head back down, and I lift my hands
and pray to be yours, O God, I know now You're my only hope.

Second Scripture Reading

Mark 9:2-9

Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and John, and led them up a high mountain apart, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no one on earth could bleach them. And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses, who were talking with Jesus. Then Peter said to Jesus, "Rabbi, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." He did not know what to say, for they were terrified. Then a cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud there came a voice, "This is my Son, the Beloved; listen to him!" Suddenly when they looked around, they saw no one with them any more, but only Jesus. As they were coming down the mountain, he ordered them to tell no one about what they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead. Amen.

Meditation

Do Not Blink!

Rev. Christian K. Choi

Text: "Then a cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud there came a voice, "This is my Son, the Beloved; listen to him!""

Mark 9:7

Solo

Canticle of the Sun

All creatures of our God and King, lift up your voice and with us sing, Alleluia!
O brother sun with golden beam, O sister moon with softer gleam, Alleluia!
O brother wind with clouds and rain, you nurture gifts of fruit and grain. Alleluia!
O sister water, flowing clear, make music for your Lord to hear. Alleluia!
All who for love of God forgive, all who in pain or sorrow grieve. Alleluia!
Christ bears your burdens and your fears; so, even in the midst of tears, Alleluia!

Introduction to the Offering and Prayer of Dedication

*Offertory Response

Doxology

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

Invitation to the Lord's Table

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

Let us lift our hearts and give thanks to the Lord our God.

Let us pray. It is our greatest joy to give you thanks and praise, eternal God, creator and ruler of the universe.... Therefore, we praise you, joining our voices with choirs of angels and with all the faithful of every time and place, who forever sing to the glory of your name:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might.

Heaven and earth are full of your glory, Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving as a living and holy offering of ourselves, that our lives may proclaim the One crucified and risen. Great is the mystery of faith:

Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

Gracious God, pour out your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these your gifts of bread and wine.... Hear now the prayer Christ taught us to pray, saying:

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed by 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

Words of Institution

Music at the Communion

O Wondrous Sight, O Vision Fair

15th Century Tune

*Prayer after Communion

Gracious God, we give you thanks for the light of love around us and the fire of faith within us. As we go forth from this place, let our lives reflect the One who is the image of your glory; Jesus Christ, the light of the world. Amen.

*Hymn

Shine, Jesus Shine

Shine, Jesus, Shine

Lord, the light of your love is shining, in the midst of darkness, shining;
Jesus, Light of the World, shine upon us: set us free by the truth you now bring us.
Shine on me; shine on me.

Refrain: Shine, Jesus, shine; fill this land with the Father's glory.
Blaze, Spirit, blaze; set your hearts on fire.
Flow, river, flow; flood the nations with grace and mercy.
Send forth your word, Lord, and let there be light.

Lord, I come to your awesome presence, from the shadows into your radiance;
by the blood I may enter your brightness. Search me; try me;
consume all my darkness. Shine on me; shine on me. *Refrain*

As we gaze on your kingly brightness, so our faces display your likeness;
ever changing from glory to glory, mirrored here may our lives tell your story.
Shine on me; shine on me. *Refrain*

*Charge and Benediction

*Voluntary

Improvisation No. 7

Camille Saint-Saëns

(*) The congregation is invited to stand.

Worship Participants

Rev. Dr. Blythe D. Kieffer, Pastor and Head of Staff

Rev. Trajan I. McGill, Associate Pastor for Parish Life

Rev. Christian K. Choi, Associate Pastor for Family Ministry

Dale Rogers, Organist and Director of Music and the Arts

Eleanor VanDeventer, Soprano Lyle VanDeventer, Bass

Elsie and Bob Fox, Videographers

Deb and David Coontz, Greeters Gregg Humphrey and Mary Peura, Ushers

Bill Deemer and Mary Ray, Communion Preparation Team

Rich Canady, Safety Team