FIRST UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

March 2, 2025

Transfiguration of the Lord



Transfiguration Sunday celebrates the glorious revelation of God in Jesus Christ and Christ's manifestation as the fulfillment of the law and the prophets. Jesus' radiant appearance on the mountaintop evokes the devouring fire of the glory of the LORD at Mount Sinai (Exodus 24.17). Here, as at Jesus' baptism, God claims him as a beloved child, in whom God is well pleased.

In their account of this event, the synoptic gospels offer an enlightening tableau vivant, with Christ flanked by Moses, representing the law, and Elijah, representing the prophetic tradition. With this vivid image, the gospel writers demonstrate the relationship of the human Word of God to the tradition of Israel and set forth the hermeneutic by which they read the Hebrew Scriptures.

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"Helping Others See Jesus' Grace In Me"

Order of Worship

Transfiguration of the Lord

* Congregation Stands/Rise in spirit

GATHERING MUSIC

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES Elder Sharon Kelley

*INTROIT #119(AA) "Thou Art Worthy"

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: God reigns, let the people tremble! God reigns, let the

earth shake!

People: For the Lord our God is exalted over all people!

Leader: God reigns, let the people tremble! God reigns, let the

earth shake!

People: For the Lord our God loves justice and works for

righteousness!

Leader: So come and proclaim at the holy mountain of the Lord:

All: God reigns, let the people tremble! God reigns, let the earth shake!

*OPENING HYMN #634 (GG) "To God Be The Glory"

* PRAYER OF PRAISE AND ADORATION (Unison)

Glorious God, on this Transfiguration Day, we come to witness Your glory revealed in Christ. You are the source of all light, shining in our lives with truth and power. Your mercy reflects the depth of Your love and compassion for us. Transform our hearts and minds, that we may follow You more faithfully. Use us to carry Your light into the world, reflecting Your divine presence in all we do. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

Almighty God, you see us as we are and know our inmost thoughts. You know the ways we've fallen short. You know the work we've left undone, the mercy we've left ungiven, the love we've left unshared, the peace we've left unmade. You know the arrogance, pride and violence that we've chosen instead of your path of forgiveness and reconciliation. You know who we are. Help us to see who we might be. Forgive us, and transform us, that we might become who you imagine us to become, in your sight, and by your mercy. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

*GLORIA PATRI

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION Rev. Delton H. Farmer

SCRIPTURE READINGS Rev. Delton H. Farmer

OLD TESTAMENT: Nehemiah 9:1-3 NEW TESTAMENT: Matthew 17:1-9

"More Than Anything" by Lamar Campbell

INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (Apostles' Creed - unison)

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth; and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy Catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen

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OFFERING

OFFERTORY HYMN #419 (AA) ... "Higher Ground" verses 1 & 2 only

*DOXOLOGY

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Invitation to the Lord's Table Rev. Delton H. Farmer

GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Leader: The Lord be with you **People: And also, with you** Leader: Lift up your hearts

People: We lift them to the Lord

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God

People: It is right to give him thanks and praise

THE LORD'S PRAYER

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

CLOSING HMN #313(AA)"I've Got A Feelin'"

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

RESPONSE"Let The Church Say Amen"

POSTUDE