



Our Mission...

to be an accepting Christian community dedicated to living, sharing and teaching the Word of God.

We respect all aspects of people including race, ethnicity, gender expression, sexual orientation, socio-economic background, age, religion, mental wellness, and ability.

Transfiguration Sunday
February 14th, 2021

***Bold print** indicates a congregational response.*

WE GATHER IN COMMUNITY

WELCOME and ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THE LAND

We acknowledge that we meet and work in Treaty 1 land, the traditional lands of the Anishinaabe, Cree and Dakota peoples, and the homeland of the Metis nation. We are thankful for these first inhabitants and we commit to working together towards justice, truth and reconciliation.

THE LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

In Christian teaching and tradition, each Sunday is believed to be a little Easter, a weekly celebration of the life, death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. So we light this candle, affirming that Christ is indeed the light of the world, our hope and our salvation. There is no other in whom we place our trust.

CALL TO WORSHIP

(I John 3:2)

Beloved, we are God's children now:

what we will be has not yet been revealed.

What we do know is this:

when he is revealed,

we will be like him,

for we will see him as he is.

PRELUDE: #663 VU – "My Faith Looks Up to Thee"

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~words by Ray Palmer

~Rev. Tanis Kolisnyk

- 1 My faith looks up to thee,
thou Lamb of Calvary, Saviour divine.
Now hear me while I pray;
take all my guilt away.
O let me from this day be wholly thine.**
- 2 While life's dark maze I tread,
and griefs around me spread, be thou my guide,
bid darkness turn to day;**

**wipe sorrow's tears away;
nor let me ever stray from thee aside.**

- 3 May thy rich grace impart
strength to my fainting heart, my zeal inspire.
As thou hast died for me,
O may my love to thee
pure, warm, and changeless be, a living fire.**

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,
whose compassion illumines the world.
Transform us into the likeness of the love of Christ,
who renewed our humanity through his life, death, and resurrection— the
same Jesus Christ, our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit. Amen.**

THE WORD OF GOD

SCRIPTURE READINGS: *Grant McMillan*

Hebrew Scripture

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.

The Psalm

Psalm 50: 1-6

*The mighty one, God the LORD, speaks and summons the earth
from the rising of the sun to its setting.*

Out of Zion, the perfection of beauty, God shines forth.

*Our God comes and does not keep silence, before him is a devouring fire,
and a mighty tempest all around him.*

*He calls to the heavens above and to the earth, that he may judge his people:
'Gather to me my faithful ones, who made a covenant with me by sacrifice!'
The heavens declare his righteousness, for God himself is judge.*

RESPONSE: *This is the word of God.*

Thanks be to God

The Gospel

Mark 9: 2-9

~Rev. Don Johnson

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 anymore, 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.

GOSPEL RESPONSE: *The Gospel of Christ.*

Thanks be to God.

SERMON: "Transfiguration"

~Rev. Don Johnson (see the attached sermon)

WE RESPOND TO THE WORD

AN AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

(The Methodist Church, England)

We believe in God the Father, who made the world.

We believe in Jesus Christ, his Son, who redeemed humankind.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, who gives life to the people of God.

PRAYERS & THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be 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 trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil:
For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory
forever and ever. Amen.**

A FINAL PRAYER

**O God,
before the passion of your one and only Son
you revealed his glory upon the holy mountain:
Grant to us that we,
beholding by faith the light of his countenance,
may be strengthened to bear our cross
and be changed into his likeness from glory to glory,
through Jesus Christ, our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever. Amen.**

THE BLESSING

*The Lord bless you and keep you;
the Lord make his face to shine upon you, and be gracious to you;
the Lord lift up his countenance upon you, and give you peace,
this day and always. Amen.*

POSTLUDE: #356 VU – “**Seek Ye First the Kingdom**”

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*~words by Karen Lafferty
~Rev. Tanis Kolisnyk*

- 1 Seek ye first the kingdom of God
and God's righteousness,
and all these things shall be added unto you.
Hallelu, hallelujah.**
- 2 Ask and it shall be given unto you;
seek and you shall find;
knock and the door shall be opened unto you.
Hallelu, hallelujah.**
- 3 We do not live by bread alone,
but by every word
that proceeds from the mouth of God.
Hallelu, hallelujah.**