



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF FENTON

To be a loving community of faith dedicated to helping people know Jesus Christ and grow, share and serve as his disciples.

Transfiguration of the Lord Sunday
February 11th, 2024 10:00 a.m.

1

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

PRELUDE

WELCOME

INTROIT PH #399 “God Welcomes All”

CALL TO WORSHIP from Psalm 6

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

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

3 Our God comes and does not keep silent;
before him is a devouring fire
and a mighty tempest all around him.

**4 He calls to the heavens above
and to the earth, that he may judge his people:**

5 “Gather to me my faithful ones,
who made a covenant with me by sacrifice!”

**6 The heavens declare his righteousness,
for God himself is judge.**

OPENING PRAYER

Lord Jesus Christ, on the mountaintop Peter, James, and John looked upon the majesty of your glory, and from the mystery of a cloud they heard a voice declaring you to be God’s Son. Though we do not live on mountaintops, grant that we too may glimpse your glory. In the mundane predictability of our life, may there be moments when sight gives way to insight and the paths of earth become the road to heaven. Amen

HYMN PH #170

“You Walk along Our Shoreline”

CALL TO CONFESSION:

The Gospel may seem veiled but don’t be content with a blinded mind! Look clearly at the light of the Gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. Let us confess our sins together and speak the goodness of the Gospel to each other. Let us pray...

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (In Unison)

Most amazing God, the mystery of your radiance surrounds us. Like the disciples of Jesus, we confess our unease with transcendent mystery. Faced with your splendor, we do not take time for attentive silence as Jesus did, but we evade the holy with stammering and busyness— anything to avoid your power. We also confess those times when we are at ease with holiness, absorbed in prayer and thought but so in love with your love that we neglect those in need. As Jesus descended into the valley to work among the poor of the earth, so direct us to our responsibilities. Such is the mystery of your love, O God, which both overwhelms and attracts us. Have mercy upon us and forgive us. Free us to love and serve in equal measure. Amen.

DECLARATION OF PARDON

Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. And all of us, with unveiled faces, seeing the glory of the Lord as though reflected in a mirror, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another, for this comes from the Lord, the Spirit. In Jesus Christ we are forgiven and transformed! Praise be to God!

PROCLAIMING THE WORD**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

God in Heaven, just as Jesus was transfigured before Peter, James, and John, may Jesus be transfigured in your Scripture today and in the interpretation of your Word. Bless our ears to hear it. Bless our hearts to accept it. Bless our hands to do what you call us to do. Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Exodus 34:29-35

29 Moses came down from Mount Sinai. As he came down from the mountain with the two tablets of the covenant in his hand, Moses did not know that the skin of his face shone because he had been talking with God. **30** When Aaron and all the Israelites saw Moses, the skin of his face was shining, and they were afraid to come near him. **31** But Moses called to them, and Aaron and all the leaders of the congregation returned to him, and Moses spoke with them. **32** Afterward all the Israelites came near, and he gave them in commandment all that the LORD had spoken with him on Mount Sinai. **33** When Moses had finished speaking with them, he put a veil on his face, **34** but whenever Moses went in before the LORD to speak with him, he would take the veil off until he came out, and when he came out and told the Israelites what he had been commanded, **35** the Israelites would see the face of Moses, that the skin of his face was shining, and Moses would put the veil on his face again until he went in to speak with him.

ANTHEM If You But Trust in God to Guide You Cherwien

[The Congregation is invited to sing the following when indicated]

**Sing, pray, and keep God's ways unswerving;
Offer your service faithfully.**

**And trust God's word, though undeserving,
There find the truth to set you free;**

**God will not fail to guide and bless
Those who embrace God's faithfulness.**

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON: Matthew 21:1-11

21 When they had come near Jerusalem and had reached Bethphage, at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, **2** saying to them, “Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied and a colt with her; untie them and bring them to me. **3** If anyone says anything to you, just say this, ‘The Lord needs them.’ And he will send them immediately.” **4** This took place to fulfill what had been spoken through the prophet:

5 “Tell the daughter of Zion,
Look, your king is coming to you,
humble and mounted on a donkey,
and on a colt, the foal of a donkey.”

6 The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them; **7** they brought the donkey and the colt and put their cloaks on them, and he sat on them. **8** A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. **9** The crowds that went ahead of him and that followed were shouting,

“Hosanna to the Son of David!
Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!
Hosanna in the highest heaven!”

10 When he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was in turmoil, asking, “Who is this?” **11** The crowds were saying, “This is the prophet Jesus from Nazareth in Galilee.”

SERMON

For Yours is the Kingdom Pastor Robbie

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

A MOMENT FOR REFLECTION

**Are there parts of this world in which you are seeing God’s Kingdom coming?
In your life?**

HYMN PH #189 BH #75 O Wondrous Sight, O Vision Fair

BEARING THE WORD OUT INTO THE WORLD

OFFERING

(If you would like a written prayer request included in our prayers today, please indicate that and an usher will collect them)

(Financial Offerings can be placed in dropbox located in the New Narthex)

Will the Ushers Please come forward.

OFFERTORY

“The Path of Life”

Handbell Choir

As God’s dear children, then, take him as your pattern, and follow Christ by loving as he loved you, giving himself up for us as an offering and a sweet-smelling sacrifice to God. Let us pray...

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. Bless these offerings that we give and 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.

DOXOLOGY

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

O God, as your Son drew apart to be in prayer with you, we offer our prayers for the transformation of the world and the church.

[Prayers of the People, concluding with the following:]

You revealed your glory and presence in your beloved Son, Jesus the Christ. In receiving our prayers, reveal the glory and presence of your Spirit alive in the world today, free us from all doubts, and empower us to act as a transfigured people. Amen.

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 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.

HYMN PH #196 BH #88 All Glory Laud and Honor

CHARGE

The Lord bless you and keep you;
the Lord make his face shine upon you
and be gracious to you;
the Lord turn his face toward you
and give you peace.

Alleluia! Amen.

BENEDICTION The Peace of God

Wagner

POSTLUDE

Peace be with you!...and also with you!