



## 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  
March 3rd, 2024 10:00 a.m.

### GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

#### PRELUDE

#### WELCOME

#### INTROIT “Majesty”

#### CALL TO WORSHIP Psalm 99 *(Please rise if you are able)*

1 The LORD is king; let the peoples tremble!

He sits enthroned upon the cherubim; let the earth quake!

**2 The LORD is great in Zion;**

**he is exalted over all the peoples.**

3 Let them praise your great and awesome name.

Holy is he!

**4 Mighty King, lover of justice,**

**you have established equity;**

**you have executed justice**

**and righteousness in Jacob.**

5 Extol the LORD our God;

worship at his footstool.

Holy is he!

**6 Moses and Aaron were among his priests,**

**Samuel also was among those who called on his name.**

**They cried to the LORD, and he answered them.**

7 He spoke to them in the pillar of cloud;

they kept his decrees

and the statutes that he gave them.

**8 O LORD our God, you answered them;**

**you were a forgiving God to them**

**but an avenger of their wrongdoings.**

**9** Extol the LORD our God,  
and worship at his holy mountain,  
for the LORD our God is holy.

### **OPENING PRAYER**

Jesus, today we celebrate your transfiguration. You remind us that you are powerful and holy. We cannot completely understand you, but you do teach us that you are our God and you love us. We praise you, holy Lord! We glorify you, almighty King! We exalt you, Son of God! Thank you for showing us who you are. In your name we pray. Amen.

**HYMN PH #792 BH #394** There is a Balm in Gilead

### **PROCLAIMING THE WORD**

#### **PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

Holy God, you revealed to the disciples the everlasting glory of Jesus Christ. Grant us, who have not seen and yet believe, the gift of your Holy Spirit, that we may boldly live the gospel and shine with your transforming glory as people changed and changing through the redeeming presence of our Savior. 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** “Come to the Water”

**NEW TESTAMENT LESSON:** Luke 9:28-36

**28** Now about eight days after these sayings Jesus took with him Peter and John and James and went up on the mountain to pray. **29** And while he was praying, the appearance of his face changed, and his clothes became as bright as a flash of lightning. **30** Suddenly they saw two men, Moses and Elijah, talking to him. **31** They appeared in glory and were speaking about his exodus, which he was about to fulfill in Jerusalem. **32** Now Peter and his companions were weighed down with sleep, but as they awoke they saw his glory and the two men who stood with him. **33** Just as they were leaving him, Peter said to Jesus, “Master, it is good for us to be here; let us set up three tents: one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah,” not realizing what he was saying. **34** While he was saying this, a cloud came and overshadowed them, and they were terrified as they entered the cloud. **35** Then from the cloud came a voice that said, “This is my Son, my Chosen; listen to him!” **36** When the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone. And they kept silent and in those days told no one any of the things they had seen.

**SERMON** Seeing is Believing

## RESPONDING TO THE WORD

### A MOMENT FOR REFLECTION

When have you experienced a Holy Moment? What did God reveal to you?

### OFFERING

Let us bring our gifts and offerings to God in support of the ministries of our spiritual family. Let us pray...

We have stood on the high crests of hope, and wandered through the valleys of loneliness. And so, we know what peace, hope, grace, and wonder can mean to others. As we offer our tangible gifts to you, we would also share

these blessings with those we will meet in the days to come. We pray this in the name of Jesus, Amen.

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

*Will the Ushers please come forward.*

## **OFFERTORY**

### **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.*

**INVITATION TO THE TABLE** “I Want to Say I’m Sorry” Andrew Peterson

## **PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

### **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.*

### **CALL TO CONFESSION:**

"Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. In him was life, and that life was the light of men. The light shines in the darkness, but the darkness has not understood it" (John 1:3-5).  
Let us confess our sin.

### **PRAYER OF CONFESSION** (In Unison)

**Eternal God, we confess that we have praised you with our lips but have not glorified you with our lives. Have mercy on us, we pray, for our brief faith that fades under pressure, for our quick enthusiasms that just as**

**quickly die, for the hopes we proclaim but do not pursue. Forgive us, Lord God, and give us new trust in your power, that we may live for justice and tell of your loving-kindness by our acts as by our words; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

### **DECLARATION OF PARDON:**

On mountaintops and in valleys, in our hopes and in our hearts, God knows us better than we know ourselves, and God forgives us when we cannot forgive ourselves!

**By God's mercy, we are forgiven; by God's mercy, we are made whole; by God's mercy, we are equipped to serve others. Thanks be to God! Amen.**

### **COMMUNION**

#### **PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

#### **WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

#### **SHARING THE FEAST**

#### **COMMUNION PRAYER:**

As we gather around your Table,  
pour out the blessings of your Spirit,  
transforming the simple gifts  
into that grace which changes our lives.

As we feed upon the Word  
which is broken for us,  
we would go forth to speak boldly:  
    reading a story to a lonely child,  
    advocating for the voiceless,  
    telling your good news to those who wander in despair.

As your Cup of peace fills us,  
we would go out into the world,  
learning that where we do justice  
    for the oppressed and rejected,  
    we find ourselves in your presence.

So then, when all time comes to an end  
and we are gathered in your glory

with our sisters and brothers  
around the Feast of Grace and peace,  
we will sing your grace forever and ever,  
God in Community, Holy in One. Amen.

## BEARING THE WORD OUT INTO THE WORLD

### **TABLETALK WITH GOD'S CHILDREN**

**HYMN PH #666 BH #474** "O Splendor of God's Glory Bright"

### **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**

### **POSTLUDE**

**May the Peace of Christ be with you...**  
**...And also with you!**