

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

NORTHMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

FEBRUARY 26, 2017

TRANSFIGURATION SUNDAY



GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

WELCOME

As the welcome pads are passed down your aisle, please help us to celebrate your worshipping with us today by signing the register.

PRELUDE

These Are the Holy commandments

J.S. Bach

A Thought as You Prepare for Worship

"The most beautiful thing we can experience is the mysterious. It is the source of all true art and science. He to whom this 'emotion' is a stranger, who can no longer pause to wonder, or stand rapt in awe is as good as dead. His eyes are closed."

—Albert Einstein

INTROIT

Swiftly Pass the Clouds of Glory

G. Day

*CALL TO WORSHIP

K. Hawker

We have seen the light of God;

on high mountains of celebration and in the ecstasy of a beloved's embrace.

We have seen the light of God;

through the bitter scorn of betrayal and the searing chasm of grief.

We have seen the light of God;

with eyes that have been blinded, with eyes that have been shaded, with eyes that have been opened.

We have seen the light of God. Thanks be to God! Amen.

This Sunday's line art drawing is a depiction of the transfiguration found on the Order of the Carmelites' Lectio Divina website.

An asterisk indicates that you are invited to stand in body or in Spirit as you feel led and are able.*

*Please join in speaking or singing all words printed in **bold italics**.*

We traditionally use the "debts" and "debtors" form of the Lord's Prayer.

Our Acknowledging our Need of Grace and Assurance of Restoration Liturgy were written by Reverend Dr. Renee C. Jackson, Pastor at First United Congregational Church in Imlay, MI. Pastor Jackson received her Master of Divinity degree from Chicago Theological Seminary in Hyde Park.

*OPENING HYMN

Purple, No. 410

God Is Calling through the Whisper

*OPENING PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

ACKNOWLEDGING OUR NEED OF GRACE

Rev. R.C. Jackson

God of Mercy and Grace, you come to us in Jesus of Nazareth to break down the dividing walls of hostility between us: Yet we maintain walls that separate and isolate.

***You give us the ministry of reconciliation:
Yet we nurse our wounds and withhold mercy and forgiveness.***

***You invite us to join with Peter, James, and John on the mountain of Transfiguration:
Yet we deny the wonders you have worked in our own lives.***

***You ask us to acknowledge and share our wealth:
Yet we refuse to recognize and relieve the poverty around us.***

***You bless our lives with boundless love:
Yet we fail to witness to that love,
and so keep others from knowing you.***

***Forgive our selfishness;
Help us receive your grace, we pray.
Transform us by your Spirit and your Word
into that which pleases you, the image of Christ. Amen.***

ASSURANCE OF RESTORATION

Jesus admonished Peter, James, and John not to tell of what they witnessed on the mountain until he was resurrected.

But we can tell what we have seen and heard of God's glory!

Here is the good news:

In Christ we are forgiven! Amen.

*RESPONSE

Change My Heart, O God

Purple, No. 695

*SHARING THE PEACE

The Peace of Christ be with you. ***And also with you.***

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

A TIME WITH THE CHILDREN

PREPARATION *Spirit of the Living God* Purple, No. 288

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Author of life, author of all wisdom, open us this day to hear in ancient songs, new strains of your powerful love, new harmonies of hope, and a melody of wisdom to guide our day, our week, our lives. Amen.

ANTHEM *Anthem for Transfiguration* P. Hofreiter

SERMON READING Luke 9:28-36 NT, pp. 69-70
This is the word of the Lord. ***Thanks be to God.***

SERMON *Are You Convinced?*

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

*HYMN *Jesus, Take Us to the Mountain* Purple, No. 193

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

RESPONSE *Shepherd Me, O God* Purple, No. 473 (3 Times)

OUR WORSHIPFUL WORK TOGETHER

WORSHIP THROUGH GIVING

Call to Offering

Offertory *O Nata Lux* T. Porter

*Response *Take, O Take Me as I Am* Purple, No. 698

*Prayer of Thanksgiving

Almighty God, you have given us talents for life and for serving you. We bring to you now the fruits of our labors. Bless what we give. Receive what we offer as a sign of our gratitude for all you give. Amen.

Today, Northminster's children will be learning about the Parable of the Mustard Seed as it is told in the Gospel of Matthew.

Jaroslav J. Vajda, our Sermon Hymn author, was the son of Rev. John Vajda, a Lutheran Pastor in East Chicago, Indiana. Jaroslav did not write his first hymn until he was 49, but in the following 40 years wrote over 200 original and translated hymns. Of Slovak descent, Vajda also dedicated 18 years to bilingual ministry.

BEARING AND FOLLOWING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

*CLOSING HYMN Purple, No. 192
Lord, the Light of Your Love Is Shining
(Shine, Jesus, Shine)

*CHARGE AND BLESSING

*CLOSING RESPONSE *Lord Transfigure our Perception* G. Day

POSTLUDE *Chaconne* Louis Couperin

*The Chancel Flowers today are given to the Glory of God by
Terri Mascherin and Tom Abendroth in memory of
Anthony Mascherin and Elizabeth Abendroth.*

TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERSHIP

Preaching—Rev. Jessica Gregory

Liturgist—Mark Larsen

A Time with the Children—Gretchen Wooldridge

Musicians—Dr. Christopher Owen, Paul Vander Weele, Northminster Chancel Choir

Choral Soloists—Johanna Moffitt, soprano; Jackie King, alto;

Dennis Kalup, tenor; Steve Uliana, bass

Ushers—Linda Beckstedt, Bruce Eddy, Scott Kellogg, Tom Abendroth

Acolytes—Calvin & Merritt Wooldridge

*If you depart during the
postlude, please be
mindful of those still in
in worshipful
contemplation.*

Our Northminster Family at Work

PROGRAM AND WORSHIP STAFF

Rev. Michael D. Kirby—*Senior Pastor & Head of Staff*

Rev. Jessica Gregory—*Associate Pastor*

Rev. Ann Ohlrogge Johnson—*Parish Associate*

Dr. Christopher Owen—*Director of Music*

Paul Vander Weele—*Organist*

Kate Lee—*Director of Youth Music*

Margaret Parcell—*Director of Northminster Nursery School*

Meredith Rogowski—*Director of Children's Ministry*

Alex DeMarco—*Director of Youth Ministry*

Gina DiBenedetto—*Director of Mom's Morning Out*

Ami Bauman—*Coordinator of Mom's Morning Out*

Lisa Martinez—*Sunday Nursery Supervisor*

Claudnette Voltaire—*Sunday Nursery Assistant*

ADMINISTRATIVE AND SUPPORT STAFF

Sharyn Wilson Woods—*Parish Administrator*

Mike Jin—*Financial Secretary*

Davit Hovakimyan—*Facilities Manager*

Alex Villegas—*Sunday Sexton*

CONGREGATIONAL LEADERSHIP

Greg Boyer—*Clerk of Session*

Tom Buess—*Moderator, Deacon Board*

Members of NPC—*Ministers*

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