

WORSHIP PLAN FOR SUNDAY FEBRUARY 14, 2021, TRANSFIGURATION

WELCOME

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. Almighty God, the resplendent light of your truth shines from the mountaintop into our hearts. Transfigure us by your beloved Son, and illumine the world with your image, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen**

GATHERING SONG *Arise, Your Light Has Come!*

1 Arise, your light has come!
The Spirit's call obey;
show forth the glory of your
God
which shines on you today.

2 Arise, your light has come!
Fling wide the prison door;
proclaim the captive's liberty,
good tidings to the poor.

3 Arise, your light has come!
All you in sorrow born,
bind up the brokenhearted ones
and comfort those who mourn.

4 Arise, your light has come!
The mountains burst in song!
Rise up like eagles on the wing,
God's pow'r will make us
strong.

Text: Ruth Duck, b. 1947

Music: FESTAL SONG, William H. Walter, 1825-1893

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CONFESSION

In the name of the Father, and of the ✝ Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

We come before you, O God our Creator, to remember our shortcoming in love and life, needing your forgiveness and your life-giving spirit.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God.

God of our tomorrows, **we confess our sinful condition before you. We desire something better than what we have and what we are. We know ourselves too well and see our human frailty. We know our temporary gods are vulnerable and will crumble under the test. We realize our desires are fickle and backfire on us at the worst times. God of our tomorrows give us your forgiveness. Let us see, today, the promise of something better in our lives.**

Our God is a tomorrow God who knows our past and sees where we are headed. We trust a God who knows our needs and desires. As we confess our sins, God is faithful and will forgive our sin and set us free from what destroys. God always promises us something better, because of the miracle of forgiveness and love. Praise God for the gift of forgiveness in the risen Christ. **Amen.**

SCRIPTURE READING: 2 Corinthians 4:3-6

A reading from 2 Corinthians.

³Even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. ⁴In their case the God of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. ⁵For we do not proclaim ourselves; we proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and ourselves as your slaves for Jesus' sake. ⁶For it is the God who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL: Mark 9:2-9

The holy gospel according to Mark.

Glory to you, O Lord.

²Six 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, ³and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no one on earth could bleach them. ⁴And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses, who were talking with Jesus. ⁵Then 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." ⁶He did not know what to say, for they were terrified. ⁷Then a cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud there came a voice, "This is my Son, the Beloved; listen to him!" ⁸Suddenly when they looked around, they saw no one with them any more, but only Jesus.

⁹As 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.

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

MESSAGE

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Let us now affirm our faith, the faith in which we baptize:

I believe in God, the Creator of all life, the source of all love, and the giver of every good and perfect gift. I believe Jesus Christ is God's only Son. Jesus was born of a virgin and lived as no other man has lived. Jesus suffered and died for the sin of the world. I believe Jesus' death and resurrection has given me new life and I will live with him for all eternity. I believe in the Holy Spirit – God with us. I have been called by the Spirit, enlightened by the Spirit, and gifted for service by the Spirit. God is at work today and the Holy Spirit is the means, by which God continues to demonstrate love and concern for me. I believe I can know and experience God in prayer, forgiveness, the Sacraments, and the community of faith. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Guided by Christ made known to the nations, let us offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all people in need.

For the gospel proclaimed in word and deed, for communities of faith far and near, and for all who show the face of Christ throughout the world, let us pray.

Have mercy, O God.

For creation: sun, moon, and stars; life forming in the dark earth and ocean deep; mountains, clouds and storms, and creatures seen and unseen, and for the Holy Spirit's guidance in our stewardship of God's creation, let us pray.

Have mercy, O God.

For those responsible for safety and protection: for emergency responders and security guards, attorneys and advocates, civil servants, and leaders of governments, that they witness to mercy and justice throughout the world, let us pray. **Have mercy, O God.**

For all who suffer this day that Christ our healer transform sickness into health, loneliness into companionship, bereavement into consolation, and suffering into peace, let us pray. **Have mercy, O God.**

For companions on life's journey in this worshiping community, for loved ones who cannot be with us this day, and for guidance during struggles we face, that God's glory is revealed around and among us, let us pray.

Have mercy, O God.

In thanksgiving for the faithful departed who now rest from their earthly pilgrimage (especially missionaries Cyril and Methodius), that their lives of service and prayer inspire us in our living, let us pray. **Have mercy, O God.**

Merciful God, hear the prayers of your people, spoken or silent, for the sake of the one who dwells among us, your Son, Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:

LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father, which 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,
and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.**

Almighty God, Father, ✝ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless us now and forever. **Amen.**

SENDING SONG *Oh, Sing to God Above*

1 Oh, sing to God above
a hymn of joyful greeting,
a song of grateful love
in the new day's light repeating:
you made the sea and sky,
the sun and stars in splendor;
delight shone in your eye--
all your works were filled with
wonder.

Refrain

Alleluia! Alleluia!
Oh, sing to God above: Alleluia!
Alleluia! Alleluia!

Oh, sing to God above: Alleluia!

2 Oh, sing to God above
a hymn of praise and blessing,
a song of grateful love,
hope and faith our hearts
expressing:
creation lifts its voice
to tell your might and glory,
and we, too, will rejoice
to proclaim the saving story.

Refrain

Oh, sing to God above: Alleluia!

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DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Christ is with you. **Thanks be to God.**

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