

TRANSFIGURATION SUNDAY

February 14, 2021

Piano Prelude: "My love is like a red, red rose" by Robbie Burns arr. by Bruce Nasmith

Welcome, Announcements & Worship Theme

CALL TO WORSHIP:

Jesus took his disciples Peter, James and John with him and ascended a high mountain where they were alone. "There he was transfigured before them. His clothes became dazzling white, whiter than anyone in the world could bleach them." (Mark 9: 2-3)

We gather for worship in order to see some light in the midst of our darkness.

We gather for worship to discover some faith and hope in difficult times.

We gather for worship to experience some fresh inspiration and empowerment to love courageously and tenaciously in a world of hate, indifference and self-preoccupation.

ALL: Let us worship God, together!

Hymn: "We have come at Christ's own bidding"

No. 187

soloist Shaun Alphonso with organist Bruce Nasmith

1. We have come at Christ's own bidding
to this high and holy place,
where we wait with hope and longing
for some token of God's grace.
Here we pray for new assurance
that our faith is not in vain,
searching like those first disciples
for a sign both clear and plain.

2. Light breaks in upon our darkness;
splendor bathes the flesh-joined Word;
Moses and Elijah marvel
as the heavenly voice is heard.
Eyes and hearts behold with wonder

how the Law and Prophets meet:
Christ, with garments drenched in
brightness,
stands transfigured and complete.

3. Strengthened by this glimpse of glory,
fearful lest our faith decline,
we like Peter find it tempting
to remain and build a shrine,
but true worship gives us courage
to proclaim what we profess,
that our daily lives may prove us
people of the God we bless.

Prayer of Approach, Confession & 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. Amen.**

The Peace of Christ be with you all;
And also with you.

Children's Theme for Church School

Special Music: Say the name

Margaret Becker & Charlie Peacock

soloist Christopher Tanaka-Mann with pianist Bruce Nasmith

Scripture Readings: 2 Kings 2: 1-12; Mark 9: 2-9

2 Kings 2: 1-12

² When the LORD was about to take Elijah up to heaven in a whirlwind, Elijah and Elisha were on their way from Gilgal. ² Elijah said to Elisha, "Stay here; the LORD has sent me to Bethel." But Elisha said, "As surely as the LORD lives and as you live, I will not leave you." So they went down to Bethel.

³ The company of the prophets at Bethel came out to Elisha and asked, "Do you know that the LORD is going to take your master from you today?"

"Yes, I know," Elisha replied, "so be quiet."

⁴ Then Elijah said to him, "Stay here, Elisha; the LORD has sent me to Jericho." And he replied, "As surely as the LORD lives and as you live, I will not leave you." So they went to Jericho.

⁵ The company of the prophets at Jericho went up to Elisha and asked him, "Do you know that the LORD is going to take your master from you today?"

"Yes, I know," he replied, "so be quiet."

⁶ Then Elijah said to him, "Stay here; the LORD has sent me to the Jordan."

And he replied, "As surely as the LORD lives and as you live, I will not leave you." So the two of them walked on.

⁷ Fifty men from the company of the prophets went and stood at a distance, facing the place where Elijah and Elisha had stopped at the Jordan. ⁸ Elijah took his cloak, rolled it up and struck the water with it. The water divided to the right and to the left, and the two of them crossed over on dry ground.

⁹ When they had crossed, Elijah said to Elisha, “Tell me, what can I do for you before I am taken from you?”

“Let me inherit a double portion of your spirit,” Elisha replied.

¹⁰ “You have asked a difficult thing,” Elijah said, “yet if you see me when I am taken from you, it will be yours—otherwise, it will not.”

¹¹ As they were walking along and talking together, suddenly a chariot of fire and horses of fire appeared and separated the two of them, and Elijah went up to heaven in a whirlwind. ¹² Elisha saw this and cried out, “My father! My father! The chariots and horsemen of Israel!” And Elisha saw him no more. Then he took hold of his garment and tore it in two.

Mark 9: 2-9

² After six days Jesus took Peter, James and John with him and led them up a high mountain, where they were all alone. There he was transfigured before them. ³ His clothes became dazzling white, whiter than anyone in the world could bleach them. ⁴ And there appeared before them Elijah and Moses, who were talking with Jesus.

⁵ Peter said to Jesus, “Rabbi, it is good for us to be here. Let us put up three shelters—one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah.” ⁶ (He did not know what to say, they were so frightened.)

⁷ Then a cloud appeared and covered them, and a voice came from the cloud: “This is my Son, whom I love. Listen to him!”

⁸ Suddenly, when they looked around, they no longer saw anyone with them except Jesus.

⁹ As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus gave them orders not to tell anyone what they had seen until the Son of Man had risen from the dead.

We are listening, O God;

Speak to us!

Sermon:

LIGHT FOR DARK DAY

Rev. Naggie Sterling

Special Music: The Eternal Source of Light Divine

G. F. Handel, Arr. by Bruce Nasmith

soloist Anna Bateman with organist Bruce Nasmith

Prayers of Thanksgiving & Pastoral Concern

Hymn: "Lord, the light of your love is shining"

No. 376

soloist Erin Stone and organist Bruce Nasmith

1. Lord, the light of your love is shining
in the midst of the darkness, shining;
Jesus, Light of the World, shine upon us.
Set us free by the truth you now bring us.
Shine on me; shine on me.

2. Lord, I come
to your awesome presence,
from the shadows into your radiance;
by your blood I may enter your brightness.
Search me, try me,
consume all my darkness.
Shine on me; shine on me. (Refrain)

Refrain: Shine, Jesus, shine;
fill this land with the Father's glory;
blaze, Spirit, blaze,
set our hearts on fire.
Flow, river, flow;
flood the nations with grace and mercy;
send forth your word,
Lord, and let there be light!

3. As we gaze on your kingly brightness,
so our faces display your likeness,
ever changing from glory to glory:
mirrored here may our lives tell your story.
Shine on me; shine on me. (Refrain)

Benediction

Threefold Amen

Piano Postlude: Valse in Ab opus 69 no.1

Chopin



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