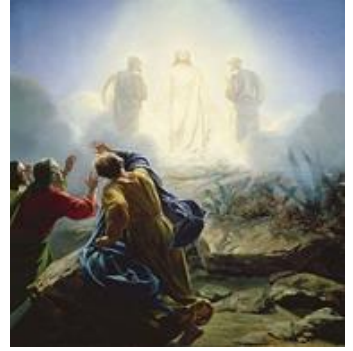


**St. Vincent UCC Worship Service**  
**Transfiguration Sunday February 11, 2024**  
Pastor – Rev. Susan Hanson  
Church Musician – Deb Rick



**Ringling of the Bell**

**Welcome & Announcements**

**Prelude Music**

*Let us rise for our Call to Worship*

**\* Call To Worship:**

**Pastor:** The light of God pierces through the shadows in our lives and calls us back into his light.

**People:** **God's light shines on us and we are loved, we are welcomed, we are here to worship him.**

**Pastor:** Let's join our voices in saying our Affirmation of Faith.

**\* An Affirmation for Advent:**

**We believe in a God who makes love our sole purpose in life. God created all life and declared it "good" - and as part of that creation God has declared that we are good as well. So, then, "being loving" and "doing good" are the way we are called and empowered to live. May we be a beacon of God's love to all those we encounter. May we bring goodness into every situation of life. May we have confidence that the good we do today will matter for now and for the future of our world. In the name of our Holy God, may we always act as his heart and hands and voices to bring more of God's love and goodness into this world through all that we say and do. May it be so forever. Amen.**

*Now, let us sing together our first hymn.*

**\* Hymn: # 182 "We Come at Christ's Own Bidding"**

*Let us Pause for a Time of Prayer*

**Call to Prayer:** On this Transfiguration Sunday, we are reminded that for us to follow Jesus, we must become people ready to be transformed by his love and his light – and to let that light shine through us into the world. Let us then turn to God and ask for his help in making this possible, saying the prayer printed in the bulletin.

**Unison Prayer:**

**O God, have mercy on us and hear our prayer. We long to follow Jesus and be true disciples of his love and light. But we often fall short of doing so. Help us to feel hope where we once only felt fear. Help us to see your light where we once only saw shadows. Help us to speak your truth in love where we once only whispered confusion and lies. Reach into our hearts and minds, transform us, and bring us to new life, through Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.**

**Assurance:** God is our source of light, and love and hope and he will help us to become transformed people, ready to walk in the ways of God all the days of our lives. In gratitude, let's sing our response.

**Sung Response:** # 758 "Glory! Glory! Glory!"

**Glory! Glory! Glory! Glory to God in the highest.  
And on earth be peace to all people  
with whom God is pleased.**

**Scripture Reading:** *Liturgist = Chris Przemieniecki*

**Liturgist:** We now turn our hearts and minds to the reading of God's Holy Scripture. Today's lesson tells us the story of what happened at the Transfiguration of Jesus Christ found in the Gospel of Mark, chapter 9, verses 2-9.

**Let us pray:** Holy God, you reveal to us the light and glory of Jesus Christ in many ways. Now, in our hearing and in our understanding, may we boldly live like Jesus and shine with the same transforming glory - as people changed and changing through the redeeming presence of our Savior. Amen.

**Reading:**

Six days had passed since he last taught to the gathered crowds, and Jesus went away from the disciples, taking with him Peter and James and John. He led them up a high mountain and they were alone.

Then, Jesus became transfigured before them. His clothes became dazzling white, such as no one on earth could bleach them. And there appeared next to him, the prophets Elijah and Moses, and they talked among themselves.

Then Peter said to Jesus, 'Rabbi, it is good for us to be here so that we can make for you three dwellings - one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.' This was all he could think to say, for they were terrified.

Then a cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud there came a voice, "This is my son, the beloved; listen to him!" Suddenly when they looked around, they saw no one with them anymore, but only Jesus.

Then, as they were coming back down the mountain, Jesus ordered them to tell no one about what they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead.

**Liturgist:** Here ends the read of God's Holy Scripture. May God bless us with understanding, and may we show our understanding in the way we live our lives. Amen.

Now, let us sing our hymn, "Make Me a Channel of Your Peace"

**Hymn: # 2171 "Make Me a Channel of Your Peace"**

**Message: "The Power of Love and How It Changes Us"**

**Sung Response: # 2150 "Lord, Be Glorified"**

**In our lives, Lord, be glorified, be glorified.  
In our lives, Lord, be glorified today.**

**Pastoral Prayer / Lord's Prayer**

**Offering Invitation:** We are witnesses to the good things that can happen in the world when we follow the ways of Jesus Christ. Through what we say and do, we make those good things possible. Let us, then, give to the work of the church in the form of our morning offering.

**Offertory**

**\* Sung Response: # 785 "We Give You But Your Own"**

**We give you but your own, whate'er the gift may be;  
All that we have is yours alone, we give it gratefully.**

**\* Prayer of Dedication:** Gracious God, because you surround us with steadfast love, because we are a people of faith, because we care about others, we bring these offerings to support the work of this church. We ask you to bless them in the name of Jesus. Amen.

**\* Hymn: # 2173 "Shine, Jesus, Shine"**

**\* Benediction:** Jesus calls us to live as children of the light where truth reigns and love conquers all. With his power to guide us, let us go take that light with us and shine like Jesus. And may God's Spirit go with you, empowering you to be the light and love we are called to be to the glory of God. Amen.

**\* Sung Response: # 775 "On Eagle's Wings"**

**And God will raise you up on eagle's wings, bear you  
on the breath of dawn, make you to shine like the sun,  
and hold you in the palm of God's hand.**

**\* Postlude Music**