

**HAGERSVILLE UNITED CHURCH &
SPRINGVALE UNITED CHURCH
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 11th, 2023**

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Ministry of Caring: The Whole People of God
Ministry of Pastoral Care & Worship: Pastor Peggy Bartlett
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REGIONAL COUNCIL PRAYER CYCLE

Korean (EM)

The focus of Transfiguration Sunday is that Jesus is the divine Son of God. Halfway between the celebration of "God with us" in the baby born in a barn, and the celebration of the resurrected Christ with us forever, we are reminded that Jesus was not just a good person, or even a new prophet. Jesus is God's Son who lived among us. With this in mind, we prepare for Lent.

OFFERING PRAYER

Lord Jesus, all that we have is yours,
and all that we are is yours. In offering these tokens of our lives,
may all that we do serve you to the glory of God.
Amen.

PRELUDE AND WELCOME

ANNOUNCEMENTS, BIRTHDAYS AND CELEBRATIONS

CALL TO WORSHIP

Come to the light—
Jesus is among us
Come to the glory—
Christ is here
Come to the Word—
We will listen
Come and worship—
with the spirit of God
Come and sing—

Celebrate!

Come and praise—

Jesus Christ!

Shout out loud! Sing with joy!

We rejoice with gladness!

Announce that the glory of God is here.

OPENING HYMN: #376 Spirit of the Living God

- 1 Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.
Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.
Melt me, mould me, fill me, use me.
Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.
- 2 Spirit of the living God, move among us all;
make us one in heart and mind, make us one in love:
humble, caring, selfless, sharing.
Spirit of the living God, fill our lives with love!

OPENING PRAYER

The darkness of winter has been our companion, Lord. Now the days are lengthening. Bring your light to us, that we might see your glory and may work for you, offering hope and peace to this world. We ask this, in Jesus' Name. AMEN.

CHILDREN'S TIME

CHILDREN'S VIDEO

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Mighty one of yesterday, today, and tomorrow,
do not be silent, but speak, that we may hear.
Speak justice, that we may correct our lawlessness.
Speak righteousness, that we may know your ways.
Speak compassion, that we may know your mercy.
Speak abundance, that we may serve others.
Speak understanding, that we may be peacemakers.
Speak glory, that we may know your Son.
Speak, and we will listen to you.

You promise forgiveness of sins and fullness of grace when we speak our shortcomings.

We speak of mistakes we have made.

We speak of abandoning your ways.

We speak of failures to show compassion and mercy.

We speak of our need for forgiveness.

Mighty one of yesterday, today, and tomorrow, hear our prayer and lead us into fullness of life.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

God will not keep silent, but will gather us in with the tender words: “You are forgiven.”

Glory to God! Amen!

VIDEO CHORUS

SCRIPTURE READINGS: Mark 9:2-9, 2 Corinthians 4:3-6

Mark 9:2-9

The Transfiguration

² And after six days Jesus took with him Peter and James and John, and led them up a high mountain by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, ³ and his clothes became radiant, intensely white, as no one^[a] on earth could bleach them. ⁴ And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses, and they were talking with Jesus. ⁵ And Peter said to Jesus, “Rabbi,^[b] it is good that we are here. Let us make three tents, one for you and one for Moses and one for Elijah.” ⁶ For he did not know what to say, for they were terrified. ⁷ And a cloud overshadowed them, and a voice came out of the cloud, “This is my beloved Son;^[c] listen to him.” ⁸ And suddenly, looking around, they no longer saw anyone with them but Jesus only.

⁹ And as they were coming down the mountain, he charged them to tell no one what they had seen, until the Son of Man had risen from the dead.

2 Corinthians 4:3-6

³ And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. ⁴ The god of this age has blinded the minds of unbelievers, so that they cannot see the light of the gospel that displays the glory of Christ, who

is the image of God. ⁵ For what we preach is not ourselves, but Jesus Christ as LORD, and ourselves as your servants for Jesus' sake. ⁶ For God, who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," made his light shine in our hearts to give us the light of the knowledge of God's glory displayed in the face of Christ.

MESSAGE: What Does This All Mean.... Transfiguration

It is a strange time of year, O God.

We linger between the seasons of Epiphany and Lent.

We are between the joy of your appearing and the horror of your undoing at the hands of those who would not or could not embrace your way of life.

Perhaps we – like Peter, James, and John –

wait for your appearing in dazzling light and unmistakable clarity:

We are in need of a glimpse of Jesus who is the way through the mix and mess of this life.

Our planet is fragile and so is the life that claims it as home.

We wonder how long we can simply take what we want with little regard for what it costs your creation. We wonder if the planet is crying out for relief in the floods that are really tears; the earthquakes that try and shake our consciousness; the gales that blow sighs, too deep for words.

Renew and restore a vision of care for your creation. Remind us to take what we need and no more. Encourage us in a counter-cultural faithfulness that is not about consumerism.

Spur us with new insight and deeper understanding that we may live mindfully each day, conscious of the impact of we do and fail to do.

In today world we like Peter, James and John are in need of a glimpse of Jesus who is the truth – the truth that love is stronger than hate; peace is possible; and life can emerge even in the midst of devastation. We pray for that truth to be known, not only to us abut to all who question, wander and seek.

We are in need of a glimpse of Jesus who is the life, a glowing reflection for us to hold on to, inviting us to follow in his footsteps as he walked the way of love and justice, inviting us to follow him in prayer as Jesus lived out his faith and made known to all who believed and followed.

This is, first of all, what the Christian faith is really all about. It is about God's glory, and God's love, being revealed in his Son, Jesus Christ. And it is about the good news, that we really do get to live in a world that has been redeemed by this Saviour. Not in the way that we always want or expect. But always in the way that we need. To be saved from the captivity of sin and unbelief.

This is the truth that we celebrate today, on this glorious festival of our Lord's Transfiguration. And it is good to listen to this amazing story again, and to be reminded of the promise of life, the forgiveness of sins, and salvation again; and to be filled with the goodness of God again. And to listen to the glorious voice of God's son, our Saviour, spoken to us through the gospels.

This is my Son, the Beloved; listen to him! Mark 2:7

Help us to see our journey as a place of your appearing – that like Peter, James, and John we may come down from the mountain and set one foot in front of the other in your name and for your sake. Amen.

HYMN: #459 Here, O MY Lord, I See you Face to Face (verses 1,2&3)

- 1 Here, O my Lord, I see you face to face;
here would I touch and handle things unseen,
here grasp with firmer hand eternal grace,
and all my weariness upon you lean.
- 2 Here would I feed upon the bread of God,
here drink with you the royal wine of heaven;
here would I lay aside each earthly load,
here taste afresh the calm of sin forgiven.
- 3 This is the hour of banquet and of song;
this is the heavenly table for me spread;
here let me feast, and feasting, still prolong
the fellowship of living wine and bread.

COMMUNION – FOLLOW INSERT

POSTLUDE

Announcements

Tuesday, February 13th: Pancake Supper at Hagersville from 4:30-6:30pm. There will be pancakes, ham, sausage, baked beans & a fruit cup. Tickets are \$12.50 for adults, \$5.00 for ages 6-12, under 5 are free. Or take advantage of the family deal (2 adults, 2 children) for \$30. Tickets will be sold at the door.

Friday, February 16th: Scrapbooking setup at Hagersville in the late afternoon/evening, all help appreciated.

Sunday, February 18th: Springvale Annual Meeting after 9:30am worship. Chili & Soup will be provided, please bring a little

Tuesday, February 20th: Coffee Time at 9:30am at Springvale. All are welcome!

Friday, February 23rd: Soup Lunch at Hagersville from 11:30am-1pm. More information to come.

Sunday, February 25th: Hagersville Annual Meeting after worship with potluck lunch to start.

Wednesday, March 6th: Office Board meeting at 10:30am at Springvale.

Please bring in paper products for the
Hagersville Food Bank!

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Thanks to Kevin Adelsberger

02-04-2013

COMMUNION IS THE BODY OF CHRIST. I
WANT TO BE AS CHRISTLIKE AS POSSIBLE.
HENCE THE NEW DIET.