

**Readings for Sunday, February 23, 2020**  
**Woodbury United Methodist Church**

**A Reading from the Book of Exodus:**

<sup>12</sup>The LORD said to Moses, "Come up the mountain to me, and while you are here, I will give you two stone tablets which contain all the laws that I have written for the instruction of the people." <sup>13</sup>Moses and his helper Joshua got ready, and Moses began<sup>[a]</sup> to go up the holy mountain. <sup>14</sup>Moses said to the leaders, "Wait here in the camp for us until we come back. Aaron and Hur are here with you; and so whoever has a dispute to settle can go to them."

<sup>15</sup>Moses went up Mount Sinai, and a cloud covered it. <sup>16-17</sup>The dazzling light of the LORD's presence came down on the mountain. To the Israelites the light looked like a fire burning on top of the mountain. [The cloud](#) covered the mountain for six days, and on the seventh day the LORD called to Moses from the cloud. <sup>18</sup>Moses went on up the mountain into the cloud. There he stayed for forty days and nights.

**A Reading from the 2<sup>nd</sup> Letter of Peter:**

<sup>16</sup>We have not depended on made-up stories in making known to you the mighty coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. With our own eyes we saw his greatness. <sup>17</sup>We were there when he was given honor and glory by God the Father, when the voice came to him from the Supreme Glory, saying, "This is my own dear Son, with whom I am pleased!" <sup>18</sup>We ourselves heard this voice coming from heaven, when we were with him on the holy mountain.

<sup>19</sup>So we are even more confident of the message proclaimed by the prophets. You will do well to pay attention to it, because it is like a lamp shining in a dark place until the Day dawns and the light of the morning star shines in your hearts. <sup>20</sup>Above all else, however, remember that none of us can explain by ourselves a prophecy in the Scriptures.

<sup>21</sup>For no prophetic message ever came just from the human will, but people were under the control of the Holy Spirit as they spoke the message that came from God.

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**A READING FROM THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW:**

**17** Six days later Jesus took with him Peter and the brothers James and John and led them up a high mountain where they were alone. <sup>2</sup>As they looked on, a change came over Jesus: his face was shining like the sun, and his clothes were dazzling white. <sup>3</sup>Then the three disciples saw Moses and Elijah talking with Jesus. <sup>4</sup>So Peter spoke up and said to Jesus, "Lord, how good it is that we are here! If you wish, I will make three tents here, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah."

<sup>5</sup>While he was talking, a shining cloud came over them, and a voice from [the cloud](#) said, "This is my own dear Son, with whom I am pleased—listen to him!"

<sup>6</sup>When the disciples heard the voice, they were so terrified that they threw themselves face downward on the ground. <sup>7</sup>Jesus came to them and touched them. "Get up," he said. "Don't be afraid!" <sup>8</sup>So they looked up and saw no one there but Jesus.

<sup>9</sup>As they came down the mountain, Jesus ordered them, "Don't tell anyone about this [vision](#) you have seen until the Son of Man has been raised from death."

This is the word of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God.**