

Grace Devotion

Week of March 2, 2025

Pastor Fred Young

When Glory

A Blessing for Transfiguration Sunday

That when glory comes,
we will open our eyes
to see it.
That when glory shows up,
we will let ourselves
be overcome
not by fear
but by the love
it bears.
That when glory shines,
we will bring it
back with us
all the way,
all the way,
all the way down.

—Jan Richardson
Painted Prayer Book

Our poet also reflects:

The story of the Transfiguration is not simply about learning to leave the mountaintop, or about releasing what we have grown attached to. It's not just about resisting our desire to turn moments of transcendence into monuments. The story of the Transfiguration is about opening our eyes to glory, allowing that glory to alter us, and becoming willing to walk where it leads us. The story urges us to trust that what we have seen, what we have known, will go with us. It assures us that the gifts received on the mountaintop will continue to illuminate us not only on level ground but even when we walk in the valley of the shadow.

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*Six 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. **Mark 9:2-3***

I cannot imagine what these first disciples felt as they watched the man they had followed for three years be physically transformed in front of their eyes! They had witnessed many healings, miracles and feedings, but had they truly understood the identity of their teacher and friend? Jesus was not the only one transformed on that mountaintop, their lives and ministry would never be the same.

I often think about what a privilege it must have been for these three, but have also questioned, "Why did Christ only take Peter, James and John?" Perhaps that is the point, in our own lives there are many moments when we too are privileged to see the glowing face of Christ. The question remains whether we have been attuned enough to see our Teacher and Friend?



Things to Consider:

1. When have you wanted to stay on the mountaintop? What is it that called you to come back down?
2. In what ways have experiences of sacred encounters created space for transformation in your life?

PRAYER: Shining God, you change us in ways we cannot imagine. As we descend the mountain today, guide us in our next steps in proclaiming your love. Amen.

March 2, 2025

Transfiguration Sunday

Welcome/Announcements

Westminster Chimes

Prelude: Kate Sallee & Ava Forrey singing, Pie Jesu By
Andrew Lloyd Weber

** Song: "Same Power"

#3

** Call to Worship

Lector: On this Transfiguration Sunday,

Congregation: help us to see clearly.

Lector: Let the veil covering our eyes,

**Congregation: help us to see the awe-inspiring
power of Your works in this world.**

Lector: Help us to be transformed,

**Congregation: help us to be more Christ-like in
our thinking, our actions, and our words.**

** Opening Prayer: (pray silently or aloud)

**Ever present God, help us to be changed—more
aware of the world around us and how Jesus Christ
has changed our lives. May You guide our
understanding of what it means to become more
Christ-like in a world that is so self-obsessed. We
pray that You open our eyes to see how we can
transform into the people You want us to be. Amen**

** Sharing the Peace of Christ

** Hymn: "Majesty"

#74

Joys and Concerns

Praying for Others/Lord's Prayer

** Special Music: Kate Sallee & Ava Forrey singing, I
Will Never Fail You by Cindy Berry

Prayer of Confession/Silent Reflection/Assurance of
Grace

Hymn: "I Stand Amazed"

#512

** Nicene Creed

Celebration of Our Gifts

** Doxology

#625

** Prayer of Dedication

Scripture Readings:

Exodus 34:29-35

2 Corinthians 3:12-4:2

Luke 9:28-36

Time for the Young at Heart

Message: "Changed"

** Song: "And All the People Said Amen"

#8

** Final Blessing

Please remain standing to sing "A Choral Benediction"

Postlude

*On the screen

** Please stand, if you are able.

Announcements

- During the month of March we will be collecting offering for One Great Hour of Sharing.

Upcoming Events

- **Ash Wednesday Services:** March 5, 2025
Grace: Noon
Trinity: Noon
Combined Grace, Trinity, Hanover and Trinity,
Gettysburg 7PM at Trinity, Hanover
- **Brunch Around the Cross Take 3:** March 9, 2025

Financial Information

General pledge: February 2025 **\$6,978.00**

General pledge: February 2024 \$7,058.00

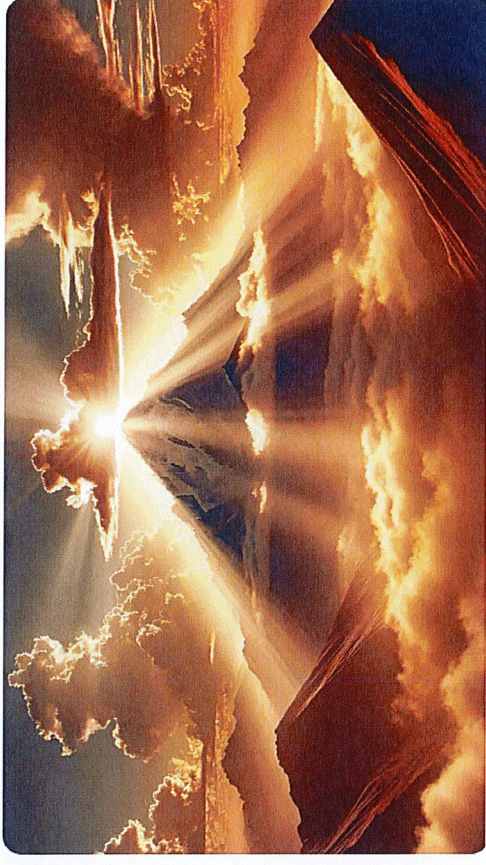
YTD income: **\$21,666.19**

YTD expenses: **\$31,103.60**

YTD deficit: **\$9,437.41**

Up Coming Meetings

- Consistory Meeting – March 10th @ 6:00PM
- Employee Staff Meeting – March 17th @ 4:30PM
- Property Committee Meeting – March 19th @ 6:00PM
- Personnel Committee Meeting – March 24th @ 3:45PM
- Worship & Music Meeting – March 24th @ 6:30PM
- Pastoral Relations Meeting - March 26th @ 6:00PM



Grace United Church of Christ

100 Fourth Street

Hanover, Pennsylvania 17331

717-632-1146

Thank you for today's Worship Leaders:

Associate Pastor - Amy Fawks

Lector - Jenn Weaver

Organist and Music Director - Christian Keller

Head Usher – Jenn Weaver & Susan Dienes

Exodus 34

L A K P F I Q I J R E A R T H Z I C S X
 L A N D A H R S N M T H D G O I N O J I
 O K W N I V V C S V T R S W T N G M Z R
 J E I V J O L M N N I K E S H P A M G O
 R S D D A H B H O H C Q V S E T T A C F
 P D I E T I B M T O J V E I R U H N H A
 R A M I S C L V L M U G N K N B E D I C
 S C W H U C O F F F A W T D Y E R M L E
 P H Z H I H E M J R U K H E R F I E D R
 V M I D S T G N M U I T E S K O N N R W
 M G E M S H T G D A L A M B D R G T E F
 L V O V V Z P I R E N E H L R E U S N G
 M T E F E V F C T A D D L T M B S T G R
 T O H A Q R Z Z X E C A M H A V E I C O
 E H S E P Y Y Y C O H I Z E T X T V H V
 I Y E E I P T H E S E C O N N A U W S E
 H G W M S R E M Z W G X E U H T U O W S
 N T T S V Z C A R G Z W W T S A S I W L
 I K H S H A L T R P Y L X R R Z M D P E
 R P M R Q M R J B T O H Q M P I N J N R

- THESE
- SINAI
- FLOCKS
- WENT
- DESCENDED
- GRACIOUS
- THIRD
- EARTH
- SAID

- EVERY
- LAMB
- SEVENTH
- INGATHERING
- BEFORE
- APPEAR
- SHALL
- SHALT
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- MIDST
- GROVES
- OTHER
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- MAKE
- MONTH

- COMMANDMENTS
- FACE
- CHILDREN
- THEM
- COMMANDMENT
- WITH
- VAIL
- MOSES

2 Corinthians 9

W V B O U N T I F U L L Y C L S N
 L M I N H W K J S Q S Q G P E P K
 A R E T F A S N B W T E C T E A O
 Q S W T H A N K S J D H L T W T S
 N R P H H K S I H T E D I I H Z A
 V E R U Y A J N T R Y R G A H U N
 F C T O J G N Q G C W J T M F W A
 R K U T I B M K M T V H N N P U X
 J R L T I M S Z S P U I B U T M R
 Z D F T S R C X G G V R I L N D H
 E Y U E O C W A P N I G W L M E P
 S W C U V U K K B L C V V M Y M Z
 C E T R Q E P R F G I U I F T A B
 Y R E S G L R H M I B J R N T H C
 Z Z J D B S E Y N H Z P O B G S M
 S Y L G N I G D U R G T Z L R A G
 N B Z P K A X P P A R E A D Y N F

- For as touching the ministering to the saints, it is superfluous for me to _____ to you:
- For I know the forwardness of your mind, for which I boast of you to them of Macedonia, that Achaia was ready a year ago; and _____ zeal hath provoked very many.
- Yet have I sent the brethren, lest our boasting of you should be in vain in this behalf: that, as I said, ye may be _____:
- Lest haply if they of Macedonia come with me, and find you unprepared, we (that we say not, ye) should be _____ in this same confident boasting.
- Therefore I thought it necessary to exhort the brethren, _____ they would go before unto you, and make up beforehand your bounty, whereof ye had notice before, that the same might be ready, as a matter of bounty, and not as of covetousness.
- But this I say. He which soweth sparingly shall reap also sparingly; and he which soweth _____ shall reap also bountifully.
- Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give: not _____, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver.
- And God is able to make all grace abound toward you; that ye, always having all sufficiency in all things, may abound to _____ good work:
- (As it is _____, He hath dispersed abroad; he hath given to the poor: his righteousness remaineth for ever.
- Now he that ministereth seed to the sower both minister bread for your food, and multiply your _____ sown, and increase the fruits of your righteousness:)
- Being enriched in every thing to all bountifulness, which causeth through us _____ to God.
- For the administration of _____ service not only supplieth the want of the saints, but is abundant also by many thanksgivings unto God;
- _____ by the experiment of this ministration they glorify God for your professed subjection unto the gospel of Christ, and for your liberal distribution unto them, and unto all men;
- And by their prayer for you, which long _____ you for the exceeding grace of God in you.
- _____ be unto God for his unspeakable gift.

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|-----------|----------------|---------------|----------|
| • WRITE | • WRITTEN | • THAT | • WHILES |
| • YOUR | • SEED | • BOUNTIFULLY | • AFTER |
| • READY | • THANKSGIVING | • GRUDGINGLY | • THANKS |
| • ASHAMED | • THIS | • EVERY | |