

WORSHIP SERVICE

Northampton Presbyterian Church

Transfiguration Sunday

February 19, 2023

10:00 AM

PRELUDE

Variations on "Wondrous Love"

David Lasky

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

- "Bible Study for Everyone," Tuesday (2/21) at 10:30 AM.
- Session Meeting, Tuesday (2/21) at 7 PM.
- Women's Breakfast at Manny's Deli, Wednesday (2/22) at 9 AM.
- Soup Supper at 6 PM, and Ash Wednesday Service at 6:30 PM, Wednesday (2/22).

RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP

ONE: The mountain top, the shining face, the glowing clothes, the voice of God speaking from the cloud, the commandments etched in stone.

MANY: Sometimes God shows up in ways we cannot deny, in a place we can go, a light we can see, a voice we can hear, a stone we can touch.

ONE: Sometimes there is the veil, the overshadowing, terrifying cloud, the questions, the appearing and disappearing, the excitement, the wondering, the silence.

MANY: Sometimes God shows up in ways we cannot deny. Always God shows up somehow. So we have shown up here, now. May God give us eyes to see.

HYMN

Fairest Lord Jesus

CRUSADER'S HYMN

**Fairest Lord Jesus,
Ruler of all nature,
O thou of God to earth come down,
Thee, will I cherish,
Thee, will I honor,
Thou, my soul's glory, joy, and crown.**

**Fair are the meadows,
Fairer still the woodlands,
Robed in the blooming garb of spring.
Jesus is fairer;
Jesus is purer,
Who makes the woeful heart to sing.**

**Fair is the sunshine,
Fairer still the moonlight,
And all the twinkling, starry host.
Jesus shines brighter;
Jesus shines purer,
Than all the angels heaven can boast.**

**Beautiful Savior,
Ruler of the nations!
Son of God and Son of Man!
Glory and honor,
Praise, adoration,
Now and forevermore be thine!**

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Forgive us, God, when we linger too long on the mountain top, enthralled with the glory that flows from you. When we fail to listen to your voice leading and guiding us, shake us from our contentment and send us forward endowed with your power. Amen.

(We pause for a moment of silent, personal confession.)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

HYMN

Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me

GLORY TO GOD

Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me,

And to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me,

And to the Spirit, whose love has set me free.

As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.

World without end, without end. Amen.

World without end, without end. Amen

World without end, without end. Amen.

As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Exodus 24:12-18

NEW TESTAMENT READING

Matthew 17:1-9

SERMON

Poof!

Rev. Judith A. Dwyer

HYMN

Lord, the Light of Your Love Is Shining

SHINE, JESUS, SHINE

**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.**

**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.**

**Lord, I come to your awesome presence,
From the shadows into your radiance;
By the blood I may enter your brightness.
Search me; try me; consume all my darkness.
Shine on me; Shine on me.**

**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.**

**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.**

**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.**

CALL FOR THE OFFERING

(Scan the QR Code to give online →)

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Lift Your Eyes and See the Glory



arr. Joseph Martin (HYFRYDOL)

DOXOLOGY AND PRAYER OF DEDICATION

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host;
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

HYMN

Be Thou My Vision

SLANE

**Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;
Naught be all else to me, save that thou art;
Thou my best thought, by day or by night,
Waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.**

**Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true Word;
I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord;
Thou my soul's shelter, and thou my high tower;
Raise thou me heavenward, O Power of my power.**

**Riches I heed not, nor vain, empty praise;
Thou mine inheritance, now and always;
Thou and thou only, first in my heart,
High King of Heaven, my treasure thou art.**

**High King of Heaven, my victory won
May I reach heaven's joys, O bright heaven's Sun!
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
Still be my vision, O Ruler of all.**

RESPONSIVE BENEDICTION

ONE: In the coming week, may you experience the presence of God with joy.

MANY: May the holy cloud comfort you.

ONE: May the divine voice encourage you.

MANY: May the power of the Spirit transform you,

ONE: Transform us,

MANY: Transform our world. Amen.

POSTLUDE

O Sons and Daughters

David Lasky

WORSHIP NOTES:

The **Call to Worship** and the **Benediction** are written by Joanna Harader and posted on Spacious Faith. <https://spaciousfaith.com>

The **Prayer of Confession** is written by Rev. Madison Shockley, in *Witness to Wonders: Service Prayers for Transfiguration Sunday*. Posted on the United Church of Christ website. http://www.ucc.org/worship_worship-ways_witness-to-wonders-service

The **Assurance of Pardon** is adapted from a prayer written by Joanna Harader and posted on Spacious Faith. <https://spaciousfaith.com>

The **Prayer of Illumination** is written by Amy Loving, and posted on The Worship Closet. <http://worshipcloset.com/words-for-worship-18th-sunday-after-pentecost>

The **Prayers of the People** are adapted from prayers written by Leslie Weatherhead, posted on <http://www.archbishopofyork.org/pages/prayers-with-the-archbishop.html>, and John Ballenger, posted on A Preacher Musing. <http://preachermusings.wordpress.com>

The **Benediction** is written by Nathan Nettleton and posted on his website, LaughingBird.net. Copyright © 2006 Nathan Nettleton.

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CHRISTIAN LIFE GROUP QUESTIONS

Questions for Discussion:

1. What do you think Jesus is telling his disciples when he says, “Get up and do not be afraid?”
2. What is the significance of Moses and Elijah in this story?
3. What are the things that are bearing down upon your life and upon the lives of those around you that you feel called to address in coming down from a mountain-top experience?
4. How might you lean into God’s future by getting into “good trouble” in your community and world?