



Sunday, February 14, 2021 Service Online
Faith Presbyterian Church
Sierra Vista, Arizona
Transfiguration Sunday



PRELUDE *“Fifth Nocturne, Opus 52”* - Leybach

INTROIT *“Change My Heart, O God”*

CALL TO WORSHIP (responsively)

One: You are with us, Sunlighted God:

*All: you awaken us with each bright new day,
overflowing with promise.*

One: You are with us, Inviting God:

*All: calling us to respond to all the chances
to share the spirit of grace and hope.*

One: You are with us, Glory of God:

*All: gathering us into the presence of your peace,
listening to the deep sighs of our hearts.*

OPENING HYMN *“Open My Eyes, That I May See”* #451

*Open my eyes, that I may see glimpses of truth thou hast for me.
Place in my hands the wonderful key that shall unclasp and set me free.
Silently now I wait for thee, ready, my God, thy will to see.
Open my eyes; illumine me, Spirit divine!*

*Open my ears, that I may hear voices of truth thou sendest clear.
And while the wave notes fall on my ear, everything false will disappear.
Silently now I wait for thee, ready, my God, thy will to see.
Open my ears; illumine me, Spirit divine!*

*Open my mouth, and let me bear gladly the warm truth everywhere.
Open my heart, and let me prepare love with thy children thus to share.
Silently now I wait for thee, ready, my God, thy will to see.
Open my heart; illumine me, Spirit divine!*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (in unison)

Our judgment often becomes clouded by our foolishness, Sheltering God, and so we make all the wrong choices. We let fancy philosophies draw us away from your grace. The flowery words of politicians can lead us into valleys of worry and despair. Our fears can convince us that those around us are conspiring against us.

You can take all our foolishness, Creative God, and make us wise enough to see you among us. You take the shards of our broken lives to recast us into a faithful people. You speak gently to us, so we can listen to your dreams of our seeing each person as your beloved, even as Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior, sees us through such eyes.

(time for silent reflection)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON (responsively)

On mountaintops and in valleys, in moments when our lives are shrouded and as well as when we reflect Christ's word to us, God is with us, declaring we are the beloved!

In this moment, in every moment, may we hear the grace of God which comes and transfigures our lives. Thanks be to God, we are forgiven! Amen.

CHILDRENS TIME – Elder Sharon Townsend

SPECIAL MUSIC – “*Days of Elijah*” - Mark

SCRIPTURE – The History 2 Kings 2:1-12

2 Now when the LORD was about to take Elijah up to heaven by a whirlwind, Elijah and Elisha were on their way from Gilgal. **2** Elijah said to Elisha, “Stay here; for the LORD has sent me as far as Bethel.” But Elisha said, “As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.” So they went down to Bethel. **3** The company of prophets[Ⓜ] who were in Bethel came out to Elisha, and said to him, “Do you know that today the LORD will take your master away from you?” And he said, “Yes, I know; keep silent.”

4 Elijah said to him, “Elisha, stay here; for the LORD has sent me to Jericho.” But he said, “As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.” So they came to Jericho. **5** The company of prophets[Ⓜ] who were at Jericho drew near to Elisha, and said to him, “Do you know that today the LORD will take your master away from you?” And he answered, “Yes, I know; be silent.”

6 Then Elijah said to him, “Stay here; for the LORD has sent me to the Jordan.” But he said, “As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.” So the two of them went on. **7** Fifty men of the company of prophets[Ⓜ] also went, and stood at some distance from them, as they both were standing by the Jordan. **8** Then Elijah took his mantle and rolled it up, and struck the water; the water was parted to the one side and to the other, until the two of them crossed on dry ground.

9 When they had crossed, Elijah said to Elisha, “Tell me what I may do for you, before I am taken from you.” Elisha said, “Please let me inherit a double share of your spirit.” **10** He responded, “You have asked a hard thing; yet, if you see me as I am being taken from you, it will be granted you; if not, it will not.” **11** As they continued walking and talking, a chariot of fire and horses of fire separated the two of them, and Elijah ascended in a whirlwind into heaven. **12** Elisha kept watching and crying out, “Father, father! The chariots of Israel and its horsemen!” But when he could no longer see him, he grasped his own clothes and tore them in two pieces.

*Holy Wisdom, Holy Word, **Thanks be to God.***

² 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, ³ and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no one^[a] on earth could bleach them. ⁴ And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses, who were talking with Jesus. ⁵ Then Peter said to Jesus, “Rabbi, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings,^[b] one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.” ⁶ He did not know what to say, for they were terrified. ⁷ Then a cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud there came a voice, “This is my Son, the Beloved; listen to him!” ⁸ Suddenly when they looked around, they saw no one with them any more, but only Jesus.

⁹ As they were coming down the mountain, he ordered them to tell no one about what they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead. ¹⁰ So they kept the matter to themselves, questioning what this rising from the dead could mean.

*Holy Wisdom, Holy Word, **Thanks be to God.***

SERMON **“Listening Matters”**

RESPONSE *From A Brief Statement of Faith, Presbyterian Church, USA*

We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God. Jesus proclaimed the reign of God: preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives, teaching by word and deed and blessing the children, healing the sick and binding up the brokenhearted, eating with outcasts, forgiving sinners, and calling all to repent and believe the gospel. In a broken and fearful world, the Spirit gives us courage to pray without ceasing, to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior, to unmask idolatries in Church and culture, to hear the voices of peoples long silenced, and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace.

In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit, we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks and to live holy and joyful lives, even as we watch for God’s new heaven and new earth, praying, “Come, Lord Jesus!”

DOXOLOGY

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise him, all creatures here below;
Praise him above ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

PASTORAL PRAYER AND LORD’S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in Heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is 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 forever. Amen

CLOSING HYMN

“Transform Us as You, Transfigured”

(to the tune of “Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence)

***Transform us as you, transfigured, stood apart on Tabor’s height.
Lead us up our sacred mountains, search us with revealing light.
Lift us from where we have fallen, full of questions, filled with fright.***

***Transform us as you, transfigured, once spoke with those holy ones.
We, surrounded by the witness of those saints whose work is done,
Live in this world as your Body, chosen daughters, chosen sons.***

***Transform us as you, transfigured, would not stay within a shrine.
Keep us from our great temptation – time and truth we quickly bind.
Lead us down those daily pathways, where our love is not confined.***

BENEDICTION

BENEDICTION RESPONSE “Shine Jesus Shine” #192

***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***

POSTLUDE - “Gloria” - Mozart

Liturgy adapted from Lectionaryliturgies.blogspot.com by Thom Shuman. Used with permission.

Participants:

Rev. Renée Rico – Pastor
Elder Fred Whitley – Worship Leader
Elder Sharon Townsend – Children’s Time
Janis Wheat – Piano and Organ
Elder Paul Hay – Video-Tech
Elder Judy Mayhew - Photos

ZOOM COFFEE HOUR Happens at 11:15 a.m.

Sign into ZOOM, and we’ll place you in a small, Hosted group to have conversation with Faith folks to catch up and for conversation. Join Zoom Meeting :

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85471968282?pwd=WnNpVXM1QndXTWdNNXN1QzNtNXFTUT09>

Meeting ID: 854 7196 8282 Passcode: 603532

Dial by your location (call any number)

+1 408 638 0968 US (San Jose)

+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)