



March 3, 2019 –Transfiguration Sunday – “What is God’s word for us today” based on Luke 9:26-38

Lectionary readings

- Exodus 34:29-35
- Psalm 99
- Luke 9:28-36, [37-43a]
- 2nd Corinthians 3:12-4:2

Sermon Notes

Moses and Elijah are talking with Jesus about his departure (*departure – coming from the Greek word for exodus*), and they both have their own experience of exodus, their passage from one realm to the next. Jesus is heading for Jerusalem and his own very difficult passage. Perhaps their words to Jesus give him encouragement and confirmation for what lies ahead.

A few days before their hike up the mountain, Jesus had spoken of the suffering awaiting him, but had the disciples truly heard him? They’re drowsy on the mountain, but then terrified when overshadowed by the cloud. They hear the voice from the cloud say “This is my Son, my Beloved; listen to him!”

Perhaps the word to us is “We can make this journey. Listen to Jesus.”

Music Suggestions

Traditional

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| • Immortal, Invisible God Only Wise | UMH 103 |
| • Christ Whose Glory Fills the Skies | UMH 173 |
| • O Wondrous Sight, O Vision Fair | UMH 258 |
| • Be Thou My Vision | UMH 451 |
| • God, the Spirit, Guide and Guardian | UMH 648 |
| • We Have Come at Christ’s Own Bidding | TFWS 2103 |
| • Swiftly Pass the Clouds of Glory | TFWS 2102 |

- Come Away With Me
- How Great is Our God
- In Christ Alone

TFWS 2202
Worship and Song 3003
Worship and Song 3105

Contemporary

- Let it Rise
- Revelation Song

Call to Worship

The Lord reigns; let all the people rejoice with awe!

We will praise God's great and awesome name!

Holy is the Lord our God.

Exalted over all the peoples.

Extol the Lord our God upon the mountain.

Surely the Lord our God is holy!

Prayers of the People

In peace, let us pray.

Have mercy, O God.

For the peace of the world, that a spirit of respect and compassion may grow among all peoples, in the world and in your church, we pray to you, most Gracious God.

Have mercy, O God.

For those in positions of public trust, that they may serve in ways that enhance the common good, promoting justice, dignity and freedom for all, we pray to you O God.

Have mercy, O God.

For a blessing upon the labors of all, and for wisdom in caring for your creation, we pray to you, most loving God.

Have mercy, O God.

For all who suffer and are in pain, for all who grieve, for those who are imprisoned, oppressed, or enslaved, that they may be released and freed from distress, we pray to you O Christ.

Christ have mercy.

For this community, that we may be awake to your word and responsive to your call, that in all we do your glory may shine, we pray to you O Christ.

Christ have mercy.

For those with whom we disagree, and those we do not understand. Give us the grace and humility to practice kindness and gentleness, we pray to you, O Christ.

Christ have mercy.

For ourselves, for the forgiveness of our sin and hardness of heart, for the strength and courage to follow Jesus more closely, we pray to you.

Holy Spirit, come to us.

Free us from anxiety; fill us anew with joy, peace and patience; give us health of mind, body and spirit; empower us to serve you and our neighbors in all we do, we pray to you.

Holy Spirit, come to us.

Holy One, come to us. Transform us into your image from one degree of glory to the next, and sustain us until that day we are united with you and all the saints, rejoicing with endless joy.

May it be so, O Trinity of Love. Alleluia! Amen.

Benediction

The glory of Jesus Christ shine upon you. The love of God enfold you. The freedom of the Holy Spirit fill you with all hope, peace, and strength for the journey ahead. Amen.

Liturgy for Holy Communion

Call to Confession

Confession is the dumping out of the stuff that we are holding onto, that is also in the way of receiving the grace of God. Let us go to the Lord, with confession for ourselves and for all humanity.

Prayer of Confession

We want to go to the mountain top with you, Jesus. But we are too burdened to climb that road. We keep score. Whether we claim victory or loss, enemies are made. Remove from us the splinters in our own eyes. Remove from us the harsh words we are planning to say. Strip us clean from every ounce of pride that finds joy in the sorrow of another. When our burden is laid down, place our gaze upon the light that pierces the darkness. Free us to be the creatures made in the image of God. Free us to honor one another. Free us to know you in the breaking of the bread, and to know one another in the forgiveness we give and receive. We pray in your Holy Name.
[silence]

Words of Assurance

Hear this GOOD NEWS: You are forgiven. You are set free. The love of Jesus poured out for ALL is the love that claims you in grace. Go and sin no more.
We are forgiven. We are set free. Amazing grace. Amen.

Sharing of the Peace

Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.
We lift them up to the Lord.

Give thanks to the Lord our God.
It's right and good to give our thanks and praise!

Blessed are you God of all creation.
You formed us in your image and breathed life into us.
When we forget that you are God- you wait patiently for us to remember.
The stars remind us that we are but a grain of sand in your hands.
The sun reminds us that your Son is our Light, in him there is no darkness.
With all creation and heaven's company we sing to you with praise and glory:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord. God of power and might.
Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.
Blesses is the One who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

Holy are you and blessed is Jesus who came to heal, to find, to restore your broken world.

He healed the sick; ate with the outcast and condemned; and lifted up the oppressed. By his baptism, suffering, death and resurrection you gave birth to your church and delivered us from sin and death.

By your stripes, we are healed. By your death we know life that rises from the grave. We remember the night he was betrayed,
How he took the bread of the table, lifted it up, gave thanks, broke it and said to his followers—

“Take and eat this bread. It is my body, given for you. Remember. Remember me.”

After the meal he took their cup, lifted it up, blessed it and passed it among them and said—

“Drink from this cup. This is the cup of the New Covenant. Remember. Remember me.”

We remember his sacrifice for us and we offer the sacrifice of our praise as we proclaim the mystery of faith—

Christ has died. Christ has risen. Christ will come again!

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us and on this bread and wine. Fill us with your grace as we eat and drink. Knit us together into your wounded, healing body- redeemed by your blood.

As we rise from this table fill us with conviction of the Saints to live the love that saves us from ourselves and restores creation as we wait for your coming –when we will all sit at your welcome table. Through your Son Jesus Christ, in your Holy Church by the power of the Holy Spirit, all honor and glory is yours, now and forever. Amen.

And now, as children of God – each one of us – we are bold to pray—
[the Lord’s Prayer]