

Welcome All to Sunday Worship Service



FEBRUARY 14, 2021

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH | 2408 N. NAVARRO ST. | VICTORIA, TEXAS 77901

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ORDER OF WORSHIP

First Presbyterian Church
February 14, 2021
Transfiguration of the Lord

*For everyone's safety,
please wear masks and maintain
social distancing at all times.*

Prelude: Now Let All the Heavens Adore Thee

- Philipp Nicolai, 1556-1608
arr. Johann Sebastian Bach 1685-1750

Welcome and Announcements

Passing of the Peace

One: The peace of Christ be with you.
All: **And also with you!**

Call to Worship

One: The glory of God shines
like a consuming fire.
All: **We have seen the glory of God
in the face of Jesus Christ.**
One: The voice of God thunders
like a mighty storm.
All: **Out of the cloud, God speaks:
This is my beloved Son; listen to him!**

Prayer of the Day (*unison*)

Holy and mighty God,
gather us among your faithful ones,
the people of your covenant,
to stand in the light of your glory
and listen for the word of the Lord,
Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

Opening Hymn (*silently singing*): "Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies"

No. 462

Litany for Transfiguration of the Lord

Blessed is the Lord our God,
who revealed the law to Moses.
The Lord our God is holy!

(continued on next page)



Litany for Transfiguration of the Lord

Blessed is the Lord our God,
who has spoken through the prophets.
The Lord our God is holy!

Blessed is the Lord our God,
who came to us in Jesus Christ.
The Lord our God is holy!

The one who spoke and called light out of darkness
now shines in our hearts.
The Lord our God is holy!

The one who comes and does not keep silence
now speaks in our midst.
The Lord our God is holy!

Now we have seen the glory of God
in the face of Jesus Christ.
The Lord our God is holy!

Great God of dazzling beauty
and overshadowing majesty,
in Jesus Christ, your beloved,
we glimpse the image of your glory.
Teach us to listen to him
so that we may hear your voice
and follow your holy way;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Invitation to Confession

God is alone righteous;
God alone is perfect;
God alone is judge.
Yet this holy, righteous God
comes to us in love, to save us.
Rejoicing in God’s grace,
let us confess our sin.

Prayer of Confession *(unison)*

God of all glory, beauty, and grace,
we have tried to hide from you—
to hide our faces, to hide our sin—
yet you have never hidden your love for us.
We have tried to search for you—
in temples, in clouds, on mountaintops—
yet you have already revealed yourself to us
in the face of Jesus Christ.
Forgive us, and transform us
so that our lives may shine
with your glory, beauty, and grace;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Kyrie Eleison *(silently singing)*

Lord, have mercy upon us.
Christ, have mercy upon us.
Lord, have mercy upon us.

Assurance of Pardon

Our God comes and does not keep silence;
God speaks to us with grace and love,
saying: You are my beloved child.

Believe in God, Friends!
Believe the good news: in Jesus Christ we are forgiven!

Gloria Patri *(silently singing)*

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, amen.

Prayer of Illumination

Speak to us, O Lord our God,
and let the fire of your Spirit
burn brightly in our hearts.
Open our minds to receive
the wisdom of the law,
the hope of the prophets,
and the life of the gospel:
Jesus Christ, your living Word. **Amen.**

First Scripture Reading: 2 Kings 2:1-12

P. 332 in the Old Testament

Now when the LORD was about to take Elijah up to heaven by a whirlwind, Elijah and Elisha were on their way from Gilgal. 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. 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.”

First Scripture Reading: *(continued)*

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. 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.”

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. Fifty men of the company of prophets also went, and stood at some distance from them, as they both were standing by the Jordan. 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.

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.” 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.” 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. 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.

Organ Anthem: The Lord Is My Light *Frances Allitsen, 1958*

Second Scripture Reading: Mark 9:2-9 P. 44 in the New Testament

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

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.

Sermon: When God Appears Rev. Jim DeMent

Mark 9:7: Then a cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud there came a voice, . . .

Silence and stillness

Congregational Hymn *(silently singing):* “Fairest Lord Jesus” No. 306

Prayer of Thanksgiving *(unison)*

Gracious God, we give you thanks
for the light of love around us
and the fire of faith within us.
As we go forth from this place
let our lives reflect the One
who is the image of your glory:
Jesus Christ, the light of the world. Amen

Doxology

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

Affirmation of Faith (The Apostles’ Creed)

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth,
and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord;
who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried;
he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty;
from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church;
the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins;
the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

Prayers of the People and the Lord’s Prayer

Closing Hymn *(silently singing):* “Jesus on the Mountain Peak” No. 74

Charge and Benediction

Postlude: O Wondrous Sight, O Vision Fair *- The Agincourt Song, England, c, 1415*



Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies

Christ, whose glory fills the skies,
Christ, the true, the only light,
Sun of Righteousness, arise,
Triumph o’er the shades of night;
Day-spring from on high, be near;
Day-star, in my heart appear.

Dark and cheerless is the morn
Unaccompanied by Thee;
Joyless is the day’s return
Till Thy mercy’s beams I see,
Till they inward light impart,
Cheer my eyes, and warm my heart.

Fairest Lord Jesus

Fairest Lord Jesus,
Ruler of all nature,
O Thou of God and 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.

Jesus on the Mountain Peak

Jesus, on the mountain peak
Stands alone in glory blazing;
Let us, if we dare to speak,
Join the saints and angels praising.
Alleluia!

Trembling at His feet we saw
Moses and Elijah speaking.
All the prophets and the law
Shout through them their joyful greeting:
Alleluia!

Visit then this soul of mine;
Pierce the gloom of sin and grief;
Fill me, radiancy divine;
Scatter all my unbelief;
More and more Thyself display,
Shining to the perfect day.

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

Swift the cloud of glory came,
God proclaiming, in its thunder,
Jesus as the Son by name!
Nations, cry aloud in wonder:
Alleluia!

This is God's beloved Son!
Law and prophets sing before Him,
First and last and only One.
All creation shall adore Him!
Alleluia!

<u>Caregiving Concerns and Prayer Requests</u>			
Kathryn Amsler	Gloria Aouelle	Leonard “Mac” McCameron	Kathleen McCameron
Roland Merrill	Mardy Ratliff	Sarah Waldrop	Nathan Galvan (Son of Leila Galvan)
Trey Miller (Son of James & Camille Miller)	Samantha Skaggs (Niece of Roxanna and Henry Hauschild)	John & Jere Swoboda (Prior FPC Members)	Carol Wisdom (Daughter of Lea Lenz)
For caregiving concerns—please contact: Jack Kleinecke (361. 212.3229); or Gayla Whitaker (361. 935.0950)			
<u>FPC Opportunities for Worship & Service</u>		<u>FPC Victoria Servant Leadership</u>	
<u>Wednesday, February 17</u> 6:00 PM Ash Wednesday Service <u>Sunday, February 21</u> 10:30 AM Worship Service <i>A copy of our “COVID-19 Pandemic Public Health and Safety Protocols for In-Person Gatherings at the Church” can be obtained as you enter the church or at our website: www.fpcofvictoria.org.</i>		<u>Session Members</u> Jim DeMent, Moderator Jack Kleinecke, Clerk of Session John Horadam, Worship Billy Leske, Building & Grounds Lynn McAuley, Caregiving & Fellowship Dawn Neel, Christian Education Susan Salinas, Worship Jim Stokes, Treasurer, Finance Gayla Whitaker, Caregiving & Fellowship Bonnie Wilkinson, Asst. Clerk, Mission & Outreach <u>Other</u> Paula Leske, Presbyterian Women Melissa Samudio, Presbyterian Day School Shelley Hartman, Dawn Neel, and Helen Resendez, Kids for Christ, Vacation Bible School Henry Hauschild, Historian	
<u>Bulletin Cover</u> Anyone who enjoys religious art will be familiar with the many “classical” portrayals of the Transfiguration of the Lord: Jesus floats in a bright, phantasmal-like hover above a mountain mesa, surrounded by floating angels, while Peter, James, and John cower before him in terrified poses. Our Bulletin cover today departs from the classical norm with a contemporary rendition (an oil on canvas: palate knife) of the Transfiguration by the self-taught African American artist, Pat Bowman. Bowman’s interpretation captures the rich, vivid mysticism associated with this event in the life of Jesus, an event recorded in all three of the Synoptic Gospels. Bowman’s use of bright, fiery colors emphasizes the dazzling nature of the scene in which Moses and Elijah appear and the voice of God is heard. As we celebrate, especially during Black History Month, the many contributions of our Black brothers and sisters to the rich culture, diversity, and advancement of our nation, you can learn more about this artist at https://www.facebook.com/LewisBowmanArtist/ .			
<u>Clergy, Music, and Administration</u> Rev. Jim DeMent, Interim Pastor Robert Wyatt, Organist/Choirmaster Tasha Wolf, Office Administrator		<u>Office Hours</u> Monday — Friday 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM 361.575.2441 info@fpcofvictoria.org	