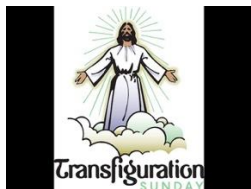


Prairieland Parish

*As we unite in worship today, we extend a warm welcome to each one present.
May we together experience the presence of God*

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We Gather to Prepare Our Hearts to Meet Our Lord



Prelude – Welcome - Announcements

Today we gather on the hinge between the Ordinary Time or season after the Epiphany and the penitential season of Lent. This is the moment that prepares us for that journey, even as it steeled Christ for the path of suffering. Therefore, it is a day of declaration, when we, once again, claim Jesus Christ as our Lord. We see him as he is, in a way, in this moment of Transfiguration. The glory we spoke of last week and will speak again at his death and Resurrection, is revealed in a visible way in this mountaintop moment. We don't have to fully understand all that might be happening here, but we do have to look in awe and wonder at the glory of our God. Today is a day of celebration before a season of denial.

CALL TO WORSHIP

We come together today in awe and wonder before the God we worship

We also come burdened down with the worries of the world and the struggles of our individual lives.

But in the midst of the worries and the struggles is God, our radiant source of love and hope.

We worship together today in awe and wonder to worship the God who transforms our lives.

OPENING PRAYER

**Holy God, mighty and immortal,
you are beyond our knowing,
yet we see your glory in the face of Jesus Christ,
whose compassion illumines the world.
Transform us into the likeness of the love of Christ,
who renewed our humanity so that we may share in his divinity,
the same Jesus Christ, our Lord,
who live and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit. Amen.**

***HYMN OF PRAISE, UMH 451**

“Be Thou My Vision”

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**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 great Father, and I Thy true son. Thou in me dwelling and I with Thee one.

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. Heart of my own heart, whatever befall. Still be my vision, O ruler of all

Riches I heed not, nor vain, empty praise
Thou mine inheritance, now and always
Thou and Thou only first in my heart

We Hear God's Word

Gospel Reading..... Luke 9:28-36 (37-43)
New Revised Standard Version

The Transfiguration

28 Now about eight days after these sayings Jesus[a] took with him Peter and John and James, and went up on the mountain to pray. 29 And while he was praying, the appearance of his face changed, and his clothes became dazzling white. 30 Suddenly they saw two men, Moses and Elijah, talking to him. 31 They appeared in glory and were speaking of his departure, which he was about to accomplish at Jerusalem.

32 Now Peter and his companions were weighed down with sleep; but since they had stayed awake,[b] they saw his glory and the two men who stood with him. 33 Just as they were leaving him, Peter said to Jesus, "Master, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings,[c] one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah"—not knowing what he said.

34 While he was saying this, a cloud came and overshadowed them; and they were terrified as they entered the cloud. 35 Then from the cloud came a voice that said, "This is my Son, my Chosen;[d] listen to him!" 36 When the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone. And they kept silent and in those days told no one any of the things they had seen.

The Word of God for the People of God, **Thanks be to God!**

CHILDREN'S SERMON

FAITH HYMN FWS #2202

"Come Away with Me"

**Come away with me to a quiet place,
apart from the world with its frantic pace,
to pray, reflect, and seek God's grace.
Come away with me. Come away.**

**Come and pray with me on a gentle sea,
on top of a hill in the Galilee,
in gardens like Gethsemane.**

Come away with me. Come away.

**Come today with thoughts of the countless ways
that God's steadfast love blesses all our days,
and join with me in silent praise.
Come away with me. Come away.**

**Come and say, in words whispered from your soul,
the feelings and actions you can't control.
Your spirit needs to be made whole.
Come away with me. Come away.**

**Come away with me to a quiet place,
to God's loving arms waiting to embrace
all those who come in hope of grace.
Come away with me. Come away.**

“Message”

A SERVICE OF WORD AND TABLE II, UMH pgs. 12-15

INVITATION

Christ our Lord invites to his table all who love him,
who earnestly repent of their sin
and seek to live in peace with one another.
Therefore, let us confess our sin before God and one another.

CONFESSION AND PARDON

**Merciful God, we confess that we have not loved you with our whole heart.
We have failed to be an obedient church. We have not done your will,
we have broken your law, we have rebelled against your love,
and we have not heard the cry of the needy.
Forgive us, we pray.
Free us for joyful obedience, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Hear the good news:
Christ died for us while we were yet sinners;
that proves God's love toward us.
In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!
In the name of Jesus
**Christ, you are forgiven!
Glory to God. Amen.**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Lift up your hearts.
We lift them up to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing,

Always and everywhere to give thanks to you,
Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth.
And so,
with your people on earth
and all the company of heaven
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

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

Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ.
By the baptism of his suffering, death, and resurrection
You gave birth to your church,
Delivered us from slavery to sin and death,
And make with us a new covenant
By water and the Spirit.
On the night in which he gave himself up for us
He took bread, gave thanks to you, broke the bread,
gave it to his disciples, and said:
“Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you.
Do this in remembrance of me.”
When the supper was over, he took the cup,
Gave thanks to you, gave it to his disciples, and said:
“Drink from this, all of you;
this is my blood of the new covenant,
poured out for you and
for many for the forgiveness of sins.
Do this, as often as you drink it,
in remembrance of me.”

And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ,
we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice,
in union with Christ's offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here,
and on these gifts of bread and wine.
Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ,
that we may be for the world the body of Christ,
redeemed by his blood.
By your Spirit make us one with Christ,
one with each other,
and one in ministry to all the world,
until Christ comes in final victory,
and we feast at his heavenly banquet.

Through your Son Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit in your holy Church,
all honor and glory is yours, almighty Father,
now and forever.
Amen.

And now, with the confidence of children of God, let us pray: Our Father,

Sharing of the Elements

Joys/Concerns

PASTORAL PRAYER for Transfiguration Sunday

Holy and loving God - whose nature and ways are far beyond our understanding, we thank you for the gift of your Son Jesus - who lets us see your face in his, who shows us your love in his actions, your grace in his manner of being. In him too, O God, we see ourselves as you would have us be and as your power is able to make us. Make us more like him now, we pray...

Lord - we often find ourselves weary, tired out by a load of care, a heap of responsibility and concern. We hunger and thirst, and often fail to stop to eat and drink at the table you have prepared for us. Lord, we are here now - and we ask you - grant us a glimpse of your glory - fill us with your spirit - refresh us and make us new ...

Loving God, we pray that your glory may fill your church and give to your people everywhere the energy to shine wherever there is darkness, disunity, persecution, or despair... Lord, hear our prayer....

Father, we pray for those we named in our sharing time and for all those whose names are upon our hearts. Grant to them health and wholeness, peace and joy, strength and hope... We remember before you:

(intercessions and petitions as shared in sharing time)

Give us all, O Lord, a greater love of your holiness, a greater delight in your mystery, and a greater joy in seeking your presence. We ask it through Christ Jesus, who revealed your will to us and who taught us to pray to you as one family, saying Our Father....

Offertory/Doxology/Prayer

Transforming God, we come to your altar this morning, knowing that in our giving and in our living, we have often put "just enough" into living our faith so as not to impact our lifestyle or cause too much discomfort. We have been reluctant to let go of our affinity for the things of this world; and in our attachments, we have often missed the opportunity for the transformed lives you desire for us. May our offering this morning be an invitation to living a life radically transformed by your power, love, and grace. We pray this in the mighty love of Jesus. Amen. (Luke 9:28-36 (37-43))

Departing Hymn UMH #395

"Take Time to Be Holy"

Author: William D. Longstaff (ca. 1882)

Composer: Geoge C. Stebbins (1890)

**1. Take time to be holy,
speak oft with thy Lord;
abide in him always,
and feed on his word.
Make friends of God's children,
help those who are weak,
forgetting in nothing
his blessing to seek.**

**2. Take time to be holy,
the world rushes on;
spend much time in secret
with Jesus alone.
By looking to Jesus,
like him thou shalt be;
thy friends in thy conduct
his likeness shall see.**

**3. Take time to be holy,
let him be thy guide,
and run not before him,
whatever betide.
In joy or in sorrow,
still follow the Lord,
and, looking to Jesus,
still trust in his word.**

**4. Take time to be holy,
be calm in thy soul,
each thought and each motive
beneath his control.
Thus led by his spirit
to fountains of love,
thou soon shalt be fitted
for service above.**

BENEDICTION

In the coming week,
may you experience the presence of God with joy.
May the holy cloud comfort you.
May the divine voice encourage you.
May the power of the Spirit transform you,
transform us,
transform our world. Amen.

***POSTLUDE**