



"A Community Of Many Faithing Communities Where All Belong!"

Living Waters Contemplative Life Center | Divine Intervention Ministry to the Homeless  
Tippecanoe just.good.food Garden | Food Justice Site PCUSA  
Arts and Science Literacy Camps for Children

# Welcome To Worship

February 27, 2021

9:30 a.m.

*The Good News*



*Welcome to this time of being with God and each other.*

**TODAY'S WORSHIP**  
*Transfiguration Sunday*

Preparing to Worship...



***“The Good News”***

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✧ **Welcome and community news**

✧ **Readying Ourselves for Worship**

***Surely God is in this place, Holy Ground!***  
***Surely God is in this place,***  
***Holy Ground!***

Today is Transfiguration Sunday - an opportunity to think about light and transformation, a space to reflect on all that we witness and strive to understand, a time for noticing the world around us and within us.

In these winter months, the branches of the trees are especially stark, bringing to mind for me a poem by Mary Oliver. Let us listen to the wisdom of the trees and hear the invitation to be like them:



## “When I am Among the Trees”

When I am among the trees,  
especially the willows and the honey locust,  
equally the beech, the oaks and the pines,  
they give off such hints of gladness.  
I would almost say that they save me, and daily.

I am so distant from the hope of myself,  
in which I have goodness, and discernment,  
and never hurry through the world  
but walk slowly, and bow often.

Around me the trees stir in their leaves  
and call out, “Stay awhile.”  
The light flows from their branches.

And they call again, “It’s simple,” they say,  
“and you too have come  
into the world to do this, to go easy, to be filled  
with light, and to shine.”

✧ **Becoming Present to God and Each Other...Our Check-in:**  
How Are You as You Arrive...how is it with your spirit?

~The Joy of Passing the Peace~

✧ **Opening Special Music Video**

✧ **Gathering as God’s People: Our Theme**



Throughout the past six weeks, we've looked at the Bible Wisdom teachings through the lens of the "Good News." We've listened to stories and music, looked at images, and reflected on our own life experiences. We have thought about how the prophets, the psalmists, and the Gospel of Luke each focus on elements of the Good News - the glad tidings - the potential for liberation - the good story. We have heard stories illustrating abundant faith. We have focused on the deep love that is offered to us and the ways we are equipped to share that love with others. We have been encouraged to consider what it means to be filled with the Power of the Spirit. And we have gained insight through the gifts and call of the prophetic voice as well as the transformative power of love and forgiveness.

In preparation for Lent - a time for reflection, for developing practices that help us remove distractions, and deepening our connection to God - it has been helpful to think about the Good News that is available to us through the Bible Wisdom teachings, among our faith community, and within ourselves and our lives.

The Good News reminds us of the nearness of God's kingdom and the potential for living into the kingdom here on earth in our time and place. Today we will explore the Gospel of Luke and we will hear of Jesus' transformation, which has some wonderful parallels to the Old Testament text we will hear from the Book of Exodus. These ancient stories have much to teach us, and it is a gift to explore them together and think about how they might enrich our lives and help us think about how to manage the terrain of our own lives.

Let us continue to consider the questions that we've been reflecting on throughout this theme: What might the Good News look like in your life? How might you recognize it beyond your own experience? In such challenging times, how do we honor the range of emotions and realities we are living and witnessing while opening our hearts to the possibility of liberation from such brokenness?





## ✧Gathering Special Music Video

[How Can I Keep From Singing - Audrey Assad](#)

### ✧Opening Ourselves to God's Grace

**All: O word of God come into this space;  
O word of God come send us your grace.  
Open our minds show us your truth;  
Transform our lives anew.**

### ✧Sharing our Innermost Lives with God

God of Light and Love, thank you for all that you reveal to us. Thank you for being present to us and making transformation possible for each one of us. As we hear again the story of Jesus' transfiguration on the mountain, we are reminded of the miracles of help and healing that You make possible every day. Help us pay attention. Guide us in seeing and hearing all that is possible in times when we are discouraged and overwhelmed. Reveal to us the ways we can be your hands and your feet and participate in making all things new. Amen.



### ✧Short period of silent reflection

Step into the welcoming silence with the deep awareness that God is present. Name your hurts, lift up your joys, release your expectations, and open to what is unfolding before you.

Holy Spirit, may we hear and take in deeply your precious word for us today. May we grow in wisdom, strength, and love as we open our ears, our minds, and our hearts to the transformative message you have in store for each of us. Amen.

## ✧Bible Wisdom Teachings

Exodus 34:29-35

### ✧Reflection Questions

What veils do I wear when interacting with others? Am I able to remove that veil in my relationship with God? When I experience an epiphany or insight, do I share that illumination? What might help me reveal to others what I am learning and experiencing on my journey?

Luke 9:28-36

### ✧Reflection Questions

In what ways have my imperfections been stepping stones to God? To others? When has an experience or insight jolted me out of my routine existence, and enabled me to see the world with new eyes?

One: May we hear anew the origin stories of our faith and draw from the roots of our tradition.

All: Thanks be to our God.

### ✧Message

***“The Good News of Transfiguration: See it, Know it, Live it”***

Rev. Trish Eckert



✧ **Special Music Video**

<https://youtu.be/YNhKBUMRjvo>

✧ **Sharing Our Wisdom**

✧ **Affirming Our Faith with Intention...Our Prayer**

**All: In life and death we belong to God.**

**Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, we trust in the one Triune God, the Holy One of Israel, whom alone we worship and serve.**

**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."**

**With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.**

**Glory be to the Creator, Christ, and Holy Spirit.**

✧ **A Moment of Quiet for Everyone**

✧ **Community Prayers, Pastoral Prayer, and The Lord's Prayer**





✧ **Benediction – Becoming a Living Blessing**

And may God shine the light of glory into your hearts.

May Christ be with you and never leave you.

And may the Spirit renew the image of God within you.

*What of this shared wisdom goes with you as helpful and life-giving?*

*Now that the worship has ended, may the service truly begin.*

✧ **Our Response...*Holy One, now we your servants go in peace. Your word lives on in us.***



*Hear this service presented on Tippe Talk podcast, link on our website & Facebook.*

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