

**First Presbyterian Church of Springfield**  
**Order of Worship for Transfiguration Sunday**

**February 14, 2021 at 11:15 a.m.**

Pastor: The Rev. Dr. Rosanna Anderson

Organist: Mike Belote

Worship Leader: Larry Dean

**Welcome**

We Approach God

**Call to Worship**

Do you see it? In cloud and light God appears: **the glory of the Lord shines around us.**

Do you hear it? A voice like thunder from heaven: **“This is my beloved Son; listen to him.”**

Open your eyes; unstop your ears. **Let us magnify the Lord!**

**Prayer of the Day**

Almighty God, in the transfiguration of your Son you confirmed the mysteries of the faith by the witness of Moses and Elijah; and in the voice from the bright cloud you foreshadowed our adoption as your children. Make us, with Christ, heirs of your glory, and bring us to enjoy its fullness, through Jesus Christ our risen Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

**Hymn of Praise**

“O Wondrous Sight, O Vision Fair”

*Glory to God* 189

O wondrous sight, O vision fair of glory that the church shall share, which Christ upon the mountain shows, where brighter than the sun he glows.

From age to age the tale declare, how with the three disciples there, where Moses and Elijah meet, the Lord holds converse high and sweet.

The law and prophets there have place, two chosen witnesses of grace; the Father’s voice from out the cloud proclaims his only Son aloud.

With shining face and bright array Christ deigns to manifest today what glory shall be theirs above who joy in God with perfect love.

**Call to Confession**

“The proof of God’s amazing love is this: while we were sinners Christ died for us” (Romans 5:8). In faith, let us confess our sin.

**Prayer of Confession**

**Holy God, we search for you in the grand and serene. We are eager to bask in your radiance and dwell with you in sanctuaries that shelter us from the sorrow of this world. We forget that you are also present in the ordinary and despised.**

**You give us a vision of the glory of Jesus and send us back down the mountain to proclaim the goodness of your law and live in your love. By your Spirit, help us to tread the path that Jesus prepared for us. Transform us into bold disciples, beacons of your light. We pray in the name of Jesus. Amen.**

### **Assurance of Pardon**

“God, who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which he loved us even when we were dead through our sins, has made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved!” (Ephesians 2:4–5). In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. **Thanks be to God.**

### God Speaks to Us Through God’s Word

#### **Prayer for Illumination**

God of shining splendor, your voice makes the earth tremble in wonder. Send your Holy Spirit to open our hearts and minds, so that we may hear your Word and live as covenant people, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**Old Testament**      1 Kings 17:1 – 16      The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

**Moment with Young Disciples**      The Rev. Dr. Rosanna Anderson

**New Testament**      Mark 9:2 – 9      The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

**Sermon**      “Close Encounters of the Theological Kind”      Dr. Anderson

### We Respond to God’s Word

**Hymn**      “Elijah’s Example Declares”      Text by John Newton

Elijah’s example declares, whatever distress may betide, the saints may commit all their cares to him who will always provide.

When rain long withheld from the earth occasioned a famine of bread, the prophet, secured from the dearth, by ravens was constantly fed.

More likely to rob than to feed are ravens who live upon prey, but where the Lord’s people have need, his goodness will find out a way.

This instance to those may seem strange who know not how God can prevail, but sooner all nature shall change than one of God’s promises fail.

**Affirmation of Faith**      Adapted from *The Confession of 1967*, 9.08

**In Jesus of Nazareth, true humanity was realized once for all. Jesus, a Palestinian Jew, lived among his own people and shared their needs, temptations, joys, and sorrows. He expressed the love of God in word and deed and became a brother to all kinds of sinful men and women. But his complete obedience to God led him into conflict. His life and teaching judged their goodness, religious aspirations, and national hopes. Many rejected him and demanded his death. In giving himself freely for them, he took upon himself the judgment under which everyone stands convicted. God raised him from the**

**dead, vindicating him as Messiah and Lord. The victim of sin became victor, and won the victory over sin and death for all.**

### **Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer**

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed by 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.**

### **Invitation to the Offering**

There is only one God, from whom all things come and for whom we live. In gratitude, let us offer our lives and gifts to the Lord.

### **Prayer of Thanksgiving and Dedication**

**Holy God, we are in awe of your miraculous power! Your glorious light shone around Jesus as he prayed on the mountain. Thank you for this glimpse of Jesus' divinity before his resurrection. The world may see just a humble teacher who died on a cross. Your Spirit gives us faith to recognize Jesus as the Savior of the world. Fill us with joy in sharing your good news, so that those who are far away will be drawn to you. Receive these tithes and offerings through your beloved Son, Jesus our Lord. Amen.**

### God Sends Us into the World

#### **Hymn of Dedication**

"Take My Life"

*Glory to God 697*

Take my life and let it be consecrated, Lord to thee; take my moments in my days; let them flow in ceaseless praise; let them flow in ceaseless praise.

Take my silver and my gold; not a mite would I withhold; take my intellect and use every power as thou shall choose; every power as thou shalt choose.

Take my love; my Lord, I pour at thy feet its treasure store; take myself and I will be ever, only, all for thee, ever, only all for thee.

#### **Invitation to Discipleship and Benediction**

Dr. Anderson