

ST. ANDREW'S UNITED CHURCH



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February 19, 2023
Transfiguration Sunday

WE GATHER

Welcome - Good morning and welcome to this service of worship. Let us gather in worship.

On mountaintops and in deep valleys,
Jesus is the light of the world.

On busy city streets and on quiet country lanes,
Jesus is the light of the world.

At home, at work, at play, and at rest,
Jesus is the light of the world.

Let us see one another in the light of Jesus.

Announcements

Acknowledging Our Kinship -

As we begin today, we acknowledge the history, spirituality, culture, and stewardship of the land of the Indigenous People of this region. We seek to live in respect, peace, and right relations as we live, work, and worship upon Traditional Territory. We are mindful of broken covenants and the need to strive to make right with all our relations.

Candle Lighting -

May the light of Christ shine within us for all the world to see.

Call To Worship

As God called to Moses from the mountain,
we are called to be God's people.

As Jesus called the disciples to climb with him
to the peak of another mountain,
we are called to follow wherever he leads.

As the disciples stood in awe at the sound of God's voice,
we are called to worship in wonder and praise.

Gathering Hymn - Immortal, Invisible God Only Wise - 264

Prayer of Confession

Though we want to walk with Moses
and see God's holy radiance,
**we hide in the mist of our own desires,
unable to perceive the presence of God's grace.**

While we want a world of justice and peace,
**we walk in clouds of selfishness,
unable to share God's loving-kindness.**

Though we want to follow Jesus up the mountain,
**we cower in fear,
unable to bear the light of God.**

Words of Assurance (Matthew 17)

In the blazing light of God's grace,
Jesus touches us to say,
"Get up and do not be afraid."
In the name of Christ, all is forgiven.
Amen.

Young at Heart

Hymn - Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah - 651 VU

WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD

Scripture Reading - Exodus 24: 12-18, Matthew 17: 1-9

Meditation - *Encounters with God*

Hymn - Fairest Lord Jesus - 341 VU

RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

Invitation to Offering

Offering Hymn - Praise God from Whom All Blessing Flow - 541 VU

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
praise God, all creatures high and low;
give thanks to God in love made known:
Creator, Word and Spirit, One.

Offering Prayer -

Luminous Giver of all good things,
in your presence, everything is gift.

Bless these gifts for the work of healing your creation, in the name of
Christ, our light and the light of the world. Amen.

Prayers of Thanksgiving and Concern

Holy One,

We come before you,
many of us feeling like we have climbed just a part of the mountain,
and there is so much more of a climb left to even get to point
to dream that we might be dazzled by what is Divine.

Our loads are heavy,
with worry, with regret,
with fatigue, with illness,
with despair for all in the world
that is hurting, in danger, in bondage and more.

We trudge ahead, following you,
stumbling, hoping, praying...
breathing hard, hearts pounding, and yes,
even some of us are nimble and skipping.

Lead us Lord,
to the top of that mountain,
where we might be dazzled by your Light,
lifted by what is Divine,
filled by the sheer delight
of what is numinous and ethereal and grounded and real.

We pray this,
for ourselves, for one another,
and for the worlds in which we live in.
Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Closing Hymn - Blessed Assurance - 337 VU

Commissioning and Benediction

Walk in light and truth.

See the light of Christ in every face.

Be the light of Christ to all you meet. Amen.