



GRACE COVENANT

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Service of Worship February 11, 2024 9:30am
Transfiguration Sunday

Gathering

SONG TO GATHER

“Grace Flows Down”
Praise Team/**All**

by Sixsteps Music

Amazing grace, how sweet the sound;
amazing love, now flowing down from hands and feet
that were nailed to the tree
as grace flows down and covers me.
It covers me, it covers me, and covers me.

WELCOME

Rev. Karen Wright

SONG TO ENTER

“Laudation”
Charter Ringers
Chris Krug & Celia Nicholas, co-directors

by Arnold Sherman

*CALL TO WORSHIP

ONE: The Lord is Sovereign; let the people tremble in awe.

ALL: God is enthroned upon the cherubim; let the earth shake.

ONE: The Lord is great in Zion and is high above all peoples.

**ALL: Proclaim the greatness of the Lord our God,
and worship God upon the holy mountain.**

***SONG TO PRAISE**

“Turn Your Eyes” as recorded by Sovereign Grace Music
Praise Team/**All**

**Turn your eyes upon Jesus, look full in his wonderful face.
And the things of earth will grow strangely dim in the light of his glory and grace.
Turn your eyes to the hillside where justice and mercy embrace.
There the Son of God gave his life for us, and our measureless debt was erased.**

**Jesus, to you we lift our eyes. Jesus, our glory and our prize.
We adore you, behold you, our Savior ever true.
Oh Jesus, we turn our eyes to you.**

**Turn your eyes to the morning and see Christ the lion awake.
What a glorious dawn, fear of death is gone,
For we carry his life in our veins.**

**Jesus, to you we lift our eyes. Jesus, our glory and our prize.
We adore you, behold you, our Savior ever true.
Oh Jesus, we turn our eyes to you.**

A TIME WITH THE CHILDREN

(Children ages 4 through 1st grade may go to Awakening to Worship, our child-friendly worship time. Greeters at the back of the Sanctuary will go with children to Room 12 downstairs where parents may pick up their children following worship. Our Nursery welcomes young children and our ushers can assist families to the nursery located in the children’s wing. Worship bags are available for children who stay in worship.)

CALL TO CONFESSION

Rev. Karen Wright

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Most amazing God, the mystery of your radiance surrounds us. Like the disciples of Jesus, we confess our unease with transcendent mystery. Faced with your splendor, we do not take time for attentive silence as Jesus did, but we evade the holy with stammering and busyness — anything to avoid your power. We also confess those times when we are at ease with holiness, absorbed in prayer and thought but so in love with your love that we neglect those in need. As Jesus descended into the valley to work among the poor of the earth, so direct us to our responsibilities. Such is the mystery of your love, O God, which both overwhelms and attracts us. Have mercy upon us and forgive us. Free us to love and serve in equal measure. Amen

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

ONE: May the peace of Christ be with you.

ALL: And also with you and all others!

*SONG OF PEACE

“Turn Your Eyes” *(continued)*

Praise Team/**All**

**Turn your eyes to the heavens; our King will return for his own.
Ev’ry knee will bow, ev’ry tongue will shout, “All glory to Jesus alone!”**

Jesus, to you we lift our eyes. Jesus, our glory, and our prize.

We adore you, behold you, our Savior ever true.

Oh Jesus, we turn our eyes to you.

Oh Jesus, we turn our eyes to you.

Equipping

SCRIPTURE LESSON

2 Kings 2:1–12 (NRSVue)

Gay Lee Ludwig-Bonney

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.”

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; keep 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, and 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.

SONG TO REFLECT

“The In-Between”

as recorded by Matt Maher

Praise Team

*From death to life, from darkness to a shine, from fear to a peace I can't explain.
From doubts to a hope, holding on and letting go of all the empty promises of shame.*

This is my song.

*I was one way, but now I'm diff'rent. There was a clear change in a holy collision,
Who I was and who I'll forever be, and he was the in-between.*

*From orphan to your child, from a stone to running wild, from a seed in the ground to breaking out.
From a mess to a mess, a blessing to a blessing, a sea of failures bearing testimony.*

This is my song.

*I was one way, but now I'm diff'rent. There was a clear change in a holy collision,
Who I was and who I'll forever be, and he was the in-between.*

*Love stretched out on a tree, screaming out, so that I could say “You've not forsaken me.”
You're the first and the last, my future and my past. Who I was and who I will forever be,
you are the in-between.*

*I was one way, but now I'm diff'rent. There was a clear change in a holy collision,
Who I was and who I'll forever be, and you are the in-between.*

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Mark 9:2–9 (NRSVue)

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 bright, such as no one on earth could brighten 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 set up three tents: 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.

Holy Wisdom, Holy Words

Thanks be to God!

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be 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.

A CALL TO STEWARDSHIP

SONG FOR GIVING

"Rising Sun"

as recorded by All Sons & Daughters

Praise Team

*Praise him, all you sinners; Sing, oh sing, you weary.**Oh, praise him all you children of God.**We lift high his glory shown throughout our stories;**we praise him as the children of God.*

*Our great Redeemer, glorious Savior, your name is higher than the rising sun;
Light of the morning, you shine forever; your name is higher than the rising sun;
Your name is higher than the rising sun.*

Sending

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

Rev. Karen Wright

*SONG TO SEND

"Rising Sun" (continued)**All/Praise Team****Praise his name forever; speak it loud and clear now****Oh, praise him all you children of God.**

**Our great Redeemer, glorious Savior, your name is higher than the rising sun;
Light of the morning, you shine forever; your name is higher than the rising sun.
Your name is higher than the rising sun.**

Halleluia, name above all, simply to speak your name is praise.

Halleluia, now and always, forever we lift your name in praise.

Halleluia, our God, you reign, simply to speak your name is praise.

**Our great Redeemer, glorious Savior, your name is higher than the rising sun;
Light of the morning, you shine forever; your name is higher than the rising sun.
Your name is higher than the rising sun.**

GOD'S PEACE TO YOU

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GRACE COVENANT
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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