



# GRACE COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Service of Worship   February 15, 2026   9:30am  
Transfiguration Sunday

## Gathering

*The prelude, the first act of worship, sets the tone for what is to follow. So, we invite you as worshipers to gather, to transition from your busy lives into a sacred place of communion with God and with each other. – Dr. Kimo Smith, adapted*

*In worship following reflective music, we are requesting a response of quiet or a contemplative “amen.” Any music that elicits a response of applause is to the glory of God.*

WELCOME Rev. Karen Wright

## \*CALL TO WORSHIP

ONE: The Lord reigns; let the peoples tremble.

**ALL: God is great in Zion and exalted over all the nations.**

ONE: Clouds and glory surround the Holy One;

**ALL: Fire and light reveal God's majesty.**

ONE: On the mountain, Christ is transfigured before us,

**ALL: And we glimpse the glory that cannot be contained.**

**Let us worship the Lord our God, for the Lord is holy.**

\*HYMN 190                   “Swiftly Pass the Clouds of Glory”

## GENEVA

## JESUS CHRIST: LIFE

## 190 Swiftly Pass the Clouds of Glory

Capo 3: (Dm) (Gm) (A7) (Dm)  
 Fm B♭m C7 Fm

1 Swift - ly pass the clouds of glo - ry, heav - en's voice, the  
 2 Glimpsed and gone the rev - e - la - tion, they shall gain and  
 3 Lord, trans-fig - ure our per - cep - tion with the pur - est

daz - zling light; Mo - ses and E - li - jah van - ish;  
 keep its truth, not by build - ing on the moun - tain  
 light that shines, and re - cast our life's in - ten - tions

Christ a - lone com - mands the height! Pe - ter, James, and  
 an - y shrine or sa - cred booth, but by fol - low -  
 to the shape of your de - signs, till we seek no

John fall si - lent, turn - ing from the sum - mit's rise down - ward  
 ing the Sav - ior through the val - ley to the cross and by  
 oth - er glo - ry than what lies past Cal - vary's hill and our

toward the shad - owed val - ley where their Lord has fixed his eyes.  
 test - ing faith's re - sil - ience through be - tray - al, pain, and loss.  
 liv - ing and our dy - ing and our ris - ing by your will.

The first two stanzas of this 20th-century Transfiguration hymn guide singers through a contemplation of the disciples' experience of that event. The final stanza becomes a corporate prayer for enlightenment and for a renewed sense of commitment to doing God's will.

## CALL TO CONFESSION

Emily Nelson Dixon

On the mountain, the disciples wanted to stay—to build tents and hold on to the moment. We, too, cling to comfort and certainty, even when God calls us to listen, to trust, and to follow. Let us confess our sin before the God who meets us in cloud and grace.

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*Together*)

**Holy and merciful God, You reveal your glory in Christ, yet we confess that we often turn away in fear or confusion. We long for mountaintop faith, but resist the path that leads back down into the world. We listen for your voice, but are easily distracted by our own desires and doubts. We want to capture your glory, rather than be transformed by it. Forgive us when we fail to listen to your beloved Son. Renew us, so that we may follow him—not only in wonder, but in obedience. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.**

## ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Do not be afraid. The voice from the cloud still speaks words of grace: “This is my Son, the Beloved.” In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven, raised up, and sent back into the world to bear the light of God’s glory. Friends, believe the good news of the gospel: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

**ALL: Thanks be to God.**

## 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.)*

## SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

ONE: May the peace of Christ be with you.

**ALL: And also with you and all others!**

\*RESPONSE 583

“Gloria”

Equipping

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Psalm 99 (NRSVue)

Joy Slayton

The Lord is king; let the peoples tremble!  
He sits enthroned upon the cherubim; let the earth quake!  
The Lord is great in Zion;  
he is exalted over all the peoples.  
Let them praise your great and awesome name.  
Holy is he!  
Mighty King, lover of justice,  
you have established equity;  
you have executed justice  
and righteousness in Jacob.  
Extol the Lord our God;  
worship at his footstool.  
Holy is he!  
Moses and Aaron were among his priests,  
Samuel also was among those who called on his name.  
They cried to the Lord, and he answered them.  
He spoke to them in the pillar of cloud;  
they kept his decrees  
and the statutes that he gave them.  
O Lord our God, you answered them;  
you were a forgiving God to them  
but an avenger of their wrongdoings.  
Extol the Lord our God,  
and worship at his holy mountain,  
for the Lord our God is holy.

ANTHEM

“What Does the Lord Require of You?”

Robert A. Hobby

Chancel Choir

Inspired by Micah 6:8

*What does the Lord require of you?*

*Bind up the brokenhearted, offering God's peace.  
Strengthen the weak, offering God's hope.  
Seek and find, find the face of Christ in each of God's children.*

*Nurture the young and tend the old, offering God's love.  
Feed the hungry, clothe the naked, offering God's compassion.  
Share the good news in the Name of Christ.  
Share the good news: with God there is welcome for all!*

*What does the Lord require of you?  
To do justice, and love kindness, and to walk humbly with God.*

**SCRIPTURE LESSON****Matthew 17:1–9 (NRSVue)**

Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became bright as light. Suddenly there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him. Then Peter said to Jesus, “Lord, it is good for us to be here; if you wish, I will set up three tents here, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.” While he was still speaking, suddenly a bright cloud overshadowed them, and a voice from the cloud said, “This is my Son, the Beloved; with him I am well pleased; listen to him!” When the disciples heard this, they fell to the ground and were overcome by fear. But Jesus came and touched them, saying, “Get up and do not be afraid.” And when they raised their eyes, they saw no one except Jesus himself alone.

As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus ordered them, “Tell no one about the vision until after the Son of Man has been raised from the dead.”

**Holy Wisdom, Holy Words  
Thanks be to God!**

**SERMON****“We Cannot Linger”****Rev. Karen Wright****HYMN 192****“Shine, Jesus Shine”****SHINE, JESUS, SHINE**

# 192 Lord, the Light of Your Love Is Shining

Shine, Jesus, Shine

Capo 2: (G) (C) (G) (D) (G)  
A D A E A



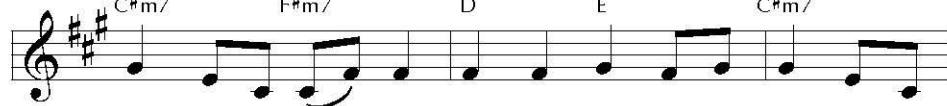
1 Lord, the light of your love is shin - ing, in the  
2 Lord, I come to your awe - some pres - ence, from the  
3 As we gaze on your king - ly bright-ness, so our

(C) (G) (D) (C) (D)  
D A E D E



midst of the dark - ness, shin - ing; Je - sus, Light of the  
shad - ows in - to your ra - diance; by the blood I may  
fac - es dis - play your like - ness; ev - er chang - ing from

(Bm7) (Em7) (C) (D) (Bm7)  
C#m7 F#m7 D E C#m7



World, shine up - on us; set us free by the truth you now  
en - ter your bright-ness. Search me; try me; con - sume all my  
glo - ry to glo - ry, mir - rored here may our lives tell your

(Em7) (F) (Dsus)(D) (F) (Dsus)(D)  
F#m7 G Esus E G Esus E



bring us. Shine on me; shine on me.  
dark - ness. Shine on me; shine on me.  
sto - ry. Shine on me; shine on me.

*Refrain*

(G) (D) (Em) (C) (G) (Am7) (C) (D7) (C) (D)  
A E F#m D A Bm7 D E7 D E



Shine, Je - sus, shine; fill this land with the Fa-ther's glo - ry.

While the reference to Jesus as the Light of the world (John 8:12, 9:5) can be understood generally, this hymn is perhaps best understood as a response to the Transfiguration (Matthew 17:1-8/ Mark 9:2-8/ Luke 9:28-36). This is the most popular of the author/composer's many songs.

JESUS CHRIST: LIFE

(G) (D) (Em) (C) (G) (Am) (Am/G) (F) (D7sus) (D7)  
A E F#m D A Bm Bm/A G E7sus E7

Blaze, Spir - it, blaze; set our hearts on fire.

(G) (D) (Em) (C) (G) (Am7) (C) (D7) (C) (D)  
A E F#m D A Bm7 D E7 D E

Flow, riv - er, flow; flood the na - tions with grace and mer - cy.

(G) (D) (Em) (C) (G) (Am) (D7) (G)  
A E F#m D A Bm E7 A

Send forth your word, Lord, and let there be light.

\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

from A Brief Statement of Faith

**In life and in 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. 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.**

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

OFFERING OF GIFTS AND MUSIC

“Love Divine”

Martin Setchell

Linda Dover, organist

Sending

\*HYMN 273

“He Is King of Kings”

HE IS KING

273

## He Is King of Kings

*Refrain*

He is King of kings; he is Lord of lords, Je-sus Christ, the

first and last, no one works like him. O he is no one works like him.

1 He built his throne up in the air; and  
 2 He pitched his tents on Ca-naan ground; no one works like him; and  
 3 I know that my Re-deem-er lives;

called his saints from ev - ery - where; broke op - pres - sive king - doms down; no one works like him. O he is by his love sweet bless - ing gives;

D.S.

This African American spiritual is a classic example of how praise of God rises out of human experience. The repeated response "no one works like him" shows confidence that the sovereign, liberating Christ abounds with the very attribute the singers need in order to survive.

## ANNUAL MEETING OF THE CONGREGATION

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

Rev. Karen Wright

POSTLUDE

“All Things Bright and Beautiful”

Philip Lane

Linda Dover, organist

*\*Stand in body or spirit*

GOD'S PEACE TO YOU

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**GRACE COVENANT**  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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