



Celebration of Worship on the Lord's Day



Transfiguration of the Lord
February 11, 2018



Prelude

"Silence May Be Kept"

from Rubrics by Dan Locklair

Westminster Peal

Choral Call to Worship

"Within Your Shelter, Loving God"

John G. Dunn, Scottish Psalter

Your holy angels bear me up and keep my feet secure. Though fierce and angry foes assail, in you my way is sure. All those who know your name on earth shall life abundant know. On all abiding in your love your saving grace bestow.

Gathering as the Children of God

Elder Rita Sheffey

One: God, we come to the mountain top to be covered in your presence.

All: *We are comforted by the hope of the mountain top, where you are so close, so accessible, where there is no doubt of your glory.*

One: The mountain top reminds us why we worship you.

All: *We witness your bright power, and your plan for the nations of the earth.*

One: As we prepare for worship, God, bring us to the mountain top;

All: *Bring us to the mountain top, Lord, so that we may be inspired to do your work in the valley below.*

† **Opening Hymn No. 462**

"Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies"

Prayer of Confession (*unison*)

God of mercy and grace, you come to us in Jesus of Nazareth to break down the barriers of hostility between us: Yet we maintain obstacles that separate and isolate. You give us the ministry of reconciliation: Yet we nurse our wounds and withhold mercy and forgiveness. You invite us to join with Peter, James, and John on the mountain of Transfiguration: Yet we deny the wonders you have worked in our own lives. You ask us to acknowledge and share our wealth: Yet we refuse to recognize and relieve the poverty around us. You bless our lives with boundless love: Yet we fail to witness to that love, and so keep others from knowing you. Forgive our selfishness, we pray. Transform us by your Spirit and your Word into that which pleases you, the image of Christ. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

Leader: Friends, believe the Good News.

People: *In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.*

† Response "Glory to the Father" (hymn no. 567)
Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:
As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen. Amen. Amen.



Prayer for Illumination

Rev. Ricardo Green

Scripture Lesson (p.169NT)

2 Corinthians 4:3-6

Anthem/Special Music

Think on These Things"

by Beth Elston

*Whatever is true, whatever is lovely, think on these things.
Whatever is good, pleasant and holy, think on these things.
Fix your thoughts on the Lord Jesus Christ. He is love, he is beauty and light.
Whatever is worthy of praise, is of God.
Whatever is just, whatever is righteous, think on these things.
Whatever is pure, noble and faithful, think on these things...
Oh Lord, I will sing of your goodness, and tell of your unfailing love.
You reign in splendor and majesty. May your name be blessed forever and ever.
Whatever is kind, whatever is gentle, think on these things.
Whatever is right, patient and gracious, think on these things...
Whatever is worthy of praise, think on these things.*

Scripture Lesson (p. 42NT)

Mark 9:2-10; 14-27

Rev. Susan Haynes

One: This is the word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

Going Up and Coming Down

† Affirmation of Faith

The Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

"Beth Elston is a music teacher, pre-school teacher and church musician. She earned a BA in Secondary Education from Concordia University, Ann Arbor, where she received Achievement Awards in Music and Humanities. She also earned an Endorsement in Elementary Education from Saginaw Valley State University. She currently directs the parish music program and teaches at Cross Lutheran Church & School in Pigeon, Michigan." – The Choristers Guild

"To counter a widening rift within the church concerning how to interpret the divinity of Christ, the emperor Constantine convened a council in Nicaea in A.D. 325. A creed reflecting the position of Alexander and Athanasius was written and signed by a majority of the bishops. Nevertheless, the two parties continued to battle each other. In 381, a second council met in Constantinople. It adopted a revised and expanded form of the A.D. 325 creed, now known as the Nicene Creed." – Adapted from the PC(USA) Book of Confessions



† **Passing of the Peace**

One: The peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

Please exchange greetings of peace and welcome with your neighbor.

† **Hymn No. 75**

"O Wondrous Sight, O Vision Fair"

Church Family Life

Please take this time to pass the attendance notebooks located at the end of the pew row. If you are a visitor, we invite you to visit our information center located in the Narthex.

Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

Invitation to the Lord's Table

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks for the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Pastor: Mighty God of...as they sing.

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Pastor: We give you...mystery of faith.

Christ has died,

Christ is risen,

Christ will come again.

Now let us...join our voices in the prayer you taught us: Our Father...(hymnal pg.16)

Words of Institution

Distribution of the Elements

Prayer after Communion

As we receive communion this morning, the pastor will invite the congregation to partake in the sacrament. Please follow the row in front of you and proceed down the middle aisles. If you prefer gluten free bread, please take from the pastor serving in the middle. When receiving communion, you may respond with "Thanks be to God," "Amen," or in silence. After partaking from the bread and cup, please leave your cup with the elder holding the empty tray and return to your seat up the outer aisles. If you prefer to be served at your seat, please raise your hand and someone will serve you.



Offering

Offertory

"Abide, O Dearest Jesus"

by Paul Manz

† **Response**

The Doxology

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;

Praise Christ, all people here below;

Praise Holy Spirit evermore;

Praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.

† Prayer of Thanksgiving

† Closing Hymn No. 74

"Jesus on the Mountain Peak"

† Benediction

† Congregational Response

"Amen"

(hymn no. 586)

† Postlude

"The people respond – Amen!"

from Rubrics by Dan Locklair

† Those who are able, please stand

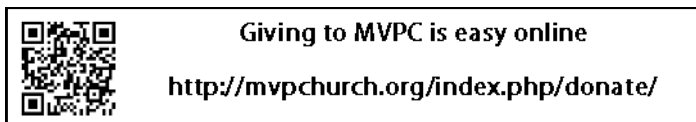
Wholehearted worship is our goal for everyone in the congregation. To make this possible for parents, we provide child care for young children from 8:45 am - 12:15 pm. We welcome children and encourage their participation in worship. The Nursery is located downstairs (Rm 120). Parents with children who may have difficulty sitting through the entire service may choose to sit in the balcony on the Mt. Vernon Hwy. side, allowing more freedom of movement. Adult supervision is required at all times.

MVPC Mission Statement

Blessed to Be a Blessing

We are a Presbyterian church filled with love and energy – an inclusive congregation committed to spiritual growth through *worship, study, fellowship, and service.*

- As **children of God**, we seek to *praise* God in worship and in all that we say and do
- As **disciples of Jesus Christ**, we *listen* to scripture, tradition, one another, and the world in order to understand God's will for us as individuals and as a community
- As **members of a family of faith**, we strive to *love* one another unconditionally, sharing our joys and standing beside one another in our struggles
- **Moved by the Spirit**, we *serve* our gracious God by taking that with which we have been blessed and turning it into blessings for others.



MVPC Staff

Rev. Susan Haynes, Interim Pastor
TJ Shirley, Minister of Worship & Arts
Elizabeth Small, Dir. of Youth Ministry
Rev. Ricardo Green, Pastor of Spanish Ministries
Nick Johns-Cooper, Organist

Lillianette Cook, Handbell Choir Director
Steve Ray, Church Finance & Operations
Jill Thompson, Administrative Assistant
Yvonne White, Financial Secretary
Lauren McClintock, Communications & Membership Coord.