



MOUNT VERNON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Online Order of Worship

Transfiguration Sunday

February 14th, 2021

— GATHERING —

Welcome & Announcements

Rev. Barrett Abernethy

Prayer of Invocation

Call to Worship

Rev. Isaac & Christina Toney-Schmitt

God's light shines from the mountain tops,
a light that transforms us, shifts and shocks our world.

God is revealed as close to us,
A partner to our coming and going,
our celebrations and our remembrance.

Here, our community reconnects with us,
both the past and the present.

Let us return to the mountaintop,
and worship God together.

Hymn

“Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty”

LOBE DEN HERREN

Praise ye the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!
O my soul, praise Him, for He is thy health and salvation!
All ye who hear, now to His temple draw near;
Praise Him in glad adoration!

Praise ye the Lord, who o'er all things so wondrously reigneth,
Shelters thee under His wings, yea, so gently sustaineth!
Hast thou not seen how thy desires ever have been
Granted in what He ordaineth?

Praise ye the Lord! O let all that is in me adore Him!
All that hath life and breath, come now with praises before Him.
Let the Amen sound from His people again,
Gladly for aye we adore Him.

Prayer of Confession

Rev. Isaac Toney-Schmitt

Merciful God, forgive us. We long to feel your presence, yet we run from your presence at the same time. We recognize the transformative moment right in front of us, but we fail to change our lives in response. We focus our attention on statues and statistics, and we miss your living presence. Merciful God, forgive us. Awaken us with your transformative light everyday as our eyes open. Continue to guide us with compassion and love, from the mountaintops to the valleys. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

...Believe the Good News of the Gospel.

In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! Thanks be to God. Amen.

Response

“Our God, Our Help in Ages Past”

ST. ANNE

Our God, our help in ages past,
Our hope for years to come,
Be Thou our guard while life shall last,
And our eternal home.

— **THE WORD** —

Prayer for Illumination

Rev. Barrett Abernethy

Scripture

Mark 9:2-9

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, 3 and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no one on earth could bleach them. 4 And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses, who were talking with Jesus. 5 Then Peter said to Jesus, “Rabbi, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.” 6 He did not know what to say, for they were terrified. 7 Then a cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud there came a voice, “This is my Son, the Beloved; listen to him!” 8 Suddenly when they looked around, they saw no one with them any more, but only Jesus. 9 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.

Sermon

The Transfigured Angle

Hymn

“Jesus, Take Us to the Mountain”

UNSER HERRSCHER

Jesus, take us to the mountain
Where, with Peter, James and John,
We are dazzled by Your glory,
Light as blinding as the sun.
There prepare us for the night
By the vision of that sight.

What do You want us to hear there
That Your dear disciples heard?
Once again the voice from heaven
Says of the incarnate Word:
"Listen, listen ev'ryone;
This is My beloved Son!"

We who have beheld Your glory,
Risen and ascended Lord,
Cannot help but tell the story,
All that we have seen and heard,
Say with Peter, James, and John:
"You are God's beloved Son!"

— RESPONSE —

Prayers of the People & The Lord's Prayer

Rev. Isaac Toney-Schmitt

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.

— SENDING —

Song

“Shine, Jesus, Shine”

Lord the light of Your love is shining
In the midst of the darkness shining
Jesus Light of the world shine upon us
Set us free by the truth You now bring us
Shine on me shine on me

Refrain

Shine Jesus shine
Fill this land
With the Father's glory
Blaze Spirit blaze
Set our hearts on fire
Flow river flow
Flood the nations
With grace and mercy
Send forth Your word Lord
And let there be light

Lord I come to Your awesome presence
From the shadows into Your radiance
By the blood I may enter Your brightness
Search me try me consume all my darkness
Shine on me shine on me (*to refrain*)

Benediction

Announcements

Good morning. Grace, mercy, and peace in the name of Jesus Christ our Risen Lord. Welcome to Mount Vernon Presbyterian Church. We are delighted that you have chosen to worship with us today.

We are excited to inform you that this week your Worship Committee met and approved a plan to return to outdoor, in-person gatherings starting March 7th. These services will take place on our courtyard and there will be a limit to 125 people. We will again ask that you sign-up on our website, and that upon arrival at church, please observe Covid-19 protocols by wearing a mask and maintaining social distancing guidelines. In March we plan to worship in-person on the 7th, 21st and Palm Sunday, March 28th. All of these services can be viewed live on our website and are of course dependent on good weather.

I do also want to inform you that on the March 21st two things of note will take place. First, the Christian Education Ministry Team is starting a new children's curriculum called Godly Play that we will utilize during outdoor worship. This ministry will take place in the garden just to the side of the fellowship hall. Secondly, following worship, we will hold the annual church meeting. A lot is happening in March and we hope you will join us.

Before all of that, however, our Ash Wednesday Drive-Thru Service and Pancake Supper will happen this Wednesday from 5:30 to 6:30pm, and to get you ready we made this little video to show you what to expect... Please sign-up for the pancakes on our website so we know how many to make!

And next Sunday, please join us online for our Youth and Isaac as they start our Lenten Six Word Story of Faith series with the annual Youth Sunday worship service.

We also have a lot of ways for you to support the church's mission and outreach. The Covid-19 fund is still active and taking donations. To date, you have given more than \$68,000 and more than \$65,000 have been distributed to partner organizations such as CAC who is supporting the food insecure, Los Ninos Primero who is ensuring families are not evicted, Family Promise who is maintaining their mission to eradicate temporary homelessness, as well as several others. From March 7th-14th, our church, along with Congregation B'Nai Torah is supplying Family Promise with supplies and overnight hosts while they stay at First Baptist, Roswell. You can go to our website, if you would like to support. Finally, the Clifton Shelter needs sandwiches for sack lunches for next Sunday. If you would like to support this, please contact Carol Beckman (post email) and let her know you will be dropping off sandwiches at the church.

The church also wants to extend prayers and sympathy for many suffering with the effects of the coronavirus and other ailments. We especially lift up Sandra Levinson who sadly died of Covid this past week. She was a co-founder of Alliance for Children Everywhere, which is the partner organization we work with in Zambia. During this time, we ask peace for the deceased, mercy for the hurting, and strength for the weary. Please continue to reach out to your pastors. Both Isaac and I want to remain connected to you. Thankfully Isaac has remained healthy through his quarantine and we look forward to his return to work. Please also reach out to Joy Carden, our Congregational Care Chair, or Pat Bartee, our Stephen Ministry Leader. In this time of distance, let us be bonded in our love of Christ.

And now in that spirit, let us prepare our hearts and minds to worship God.