

THE WORSHIP OF GOD

The Lord's Day

February 26, 2017

TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD

Almighty God, whose Son was revealed in majesty before he suffered death upon the cross: Give us faith to perceive his glory, that being strengthened by his grace we may be changed into his likeness, from glory to glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude

Lighting the Christ Candles

Call to Worship:

Leader: Before the throne there was something that looked like a sea of glass, clear like crystal. In the center and around the throne were four living creatures with eyes all over them, in front and in back. Each of these four living creatures had six wings and was covered all over with eyes, inside and out. Day and night they never stop saying:

People: "Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God Almighty. He was, he is, and he is coming."

Leader: These living creatures give glory, honor, and thanks to the One who sits on the throne, who lives forever and ever. Then the twenty-four elders bow down before the One who sits on the throne, and they worship him who lives forever and ever. They put their crowns down before the throne and say:

People: "You are worthy, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honor and power, because you made all things."

Revelation 4:6, 8-11

*Hymn: *Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty!* #1

*Prayer of Adoration

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession:

God of compassion, in Jesus Christ you reveal the light of your glory, but we turn away, distracted by our own plans. We confess that we speak when we should listen, and act when we should wait. Forgive our aimless enthusiasms. Grant us wisdom to live in your light and to follow in the way of your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior.

Time for Personal Confession

Response: *Lord, Have Mercy Upon Us* Dvořák

Lord, have mercy upon us; Lord, have mercy upon us.

Christ, have mercy; Christ, have mercy;

Christ, have mercy; Christ, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy upon us; Lord, have mercy upon us, upon us.

Assurance of Pardon:

Leader: What then shall we say to this? If God is for us, who is against us?

People: He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, will he not also give us all things with him?

Leader: Who shall bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies; who is to condemn? Is it Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised from the dead, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us? Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword?

People: No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am sure that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Romans 8:31-35; 37-39

Leader: Friends, this is the good news of the gospel.

People: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven; thanks be to God. Amen.

*Gloria Patri *Glory Be to the Father* #581
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end.
Amen, amen.

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Offertory
*Doxology: Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; #606
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*Prayer of Dedication

Prayer for Illumination:

Eternal God, whose word silences the shouts of the mighty, quiet within us every voice but your own. Speak to us through the suffering and death of Jesus Christ, that by the power of your Holy Spirit, we may receive grace to show Christ's love in lives given to your service. Amen.

Psalter: Psalm 72:1-7, 12-14, 16-19
(Tune: Ein'feste Burg #275; *A Mighty Fortress Is Our God*)
People will sing the response

Leader: Endow the king with your justice, O God, the royal son with your righteousness. May he judge your people in righteousness, your afflicted ones with justice. May the mountains bring prosperity to the people, the hills the fruit of righteousness. May he defend the afflicted among the people and save the children of the needy; may he crush the oppressor.

People: Grant justice, Lord, to those who rule;
Let righteousness compel their hand;
Their courts shall bear prosperity
And serve the poor throughout the land.
O Lord, our cause defend, deliv'rance quickly send
To those who, bound in chains of greed and selfish gain.
Submit them to Thy command.

Leader: May he endure as long as the sun, as long as the moon, through all generations. May he be like rain falling on a mown field, like showers watering the earth. In his days may the righteous flourish and prosperity abound till the moon is no more. For he will deliver the needy who cry out, the afflicted who have no one to help. He will take pity on the weak and the needy and save the needy from death. He will rescue them from oppression and violence, for precious is their blood in his sight.

People: As long as sun and stars of space
Walk their divine-appointed round;
Long as endures our feeble race
The blessings of the Lord abound.
Like rains that feed the field, our Lord to us will yield
The bounty and the peace which God will never cease
To shower where truth is found.

Leader: May his name endure forever; may it continue as long as the sun. Then all nations will be blessed through him, and they will call him blessed. Praise be to the LORD God, the God of Israel, who alone does marvelous deeds. Praise be to his glorious name forever; may the whole earth be filled with his glory.

People: God's righteousness extends to all
Who seek assurance in distress;
The weak who in their anguish bend
When hate and violence oppress.
As golden sheaves of grain, God's harvest we remain;
All praise to God above! Who crowns our life with love.
O bless God's name forever.

Scripture Reading: Luke 9:28-36

Anthem: *Hallelujah, Amen* G. F. Handel

Hallelujah, amen. O Judah, rejoice, in songs divine, with cherubim and seraphim harmonious join.

Time for Young Disciples

(Preschool children may return to their pew or gather at the piano door where today's shepherd will lead them in a time of special activities.)

*Hymn: *O Wondrous Sight, O Vision Fair* #189

Scripture: First Peter 3:18-22

Sermon: He Descended Into Hell

Prayers of the People

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.

*Affirmation of Faith: The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth; And in Jesus Christ His only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead and buried; He descended into hell; the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

*Hymn: *Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound* #649

*Benediction

*Choral Response: *I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me* #700

Postlude

*Please stand if you are able

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday, February 26

12:00 noon Children's Choir
5:30 pm Youth
6:00 pm Session Meeting

Monday, February 27

5:15 pm Soul Sisters

Tuesday, February 28

1:00 pm Sanctuary Guild
5:30 pm Handbell Practice
5:30 pm Prayer Group

Wednesday, March 1

12:15 pm Ash Wednesday Service
7:30 pm Choir Practice

Friday – Sunday, March 3-5

Youth at Cho-Yeh

Sunday, March 5

9:30 am Sunday School
11:00 am Worship
12:00 noon Communion Reception
12:00 noon Children's Choir Practice

ASSISTING IN TODAY'S SERVICE

Ushers: Terri Moehring ElaRuth McCullough
Carrie Moody Marty Taylor
Shepherd: Betsy Tucker
Liturgist: Carrie Moody
Reader: Ray Taylor

Westminster Presbyterian Church (PCUSA)

Westminster Presbyterian Church exists to declare God's love for all through Jesus Christ, to nurture and encourage spiritual growth, to maintain the integrity of divine worship, and to share the love and joy found in Christ by giving ourselves to our community and to the world.

THE INVITATION TO MEMBERSHIP at Westminster Church is always open to persons who wish to join us in witness and service to Jesus Christ. If you are interested in church membership or desire more information about this congregation, please indicate on the Friendship Pad or speak to the pastor, or one of the elders following the service.

MINISTERS: All the Members of the Congregation

CHURCH STAFF: Pastor Steve Newton
Director of Music Deborah Dalton
Organist James Pitts
Nursery Coordinator Myra McNellie
Presbyterian Women Moderator Marilyn Tutwiler
Treasurer Sue Atkins
Secretary Sally Newton
Children's Choir Director Elise Gavin
Handbell Choir Director Myra McNellie
Newsletter Editor Sally Newton

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Westminster Presbyterian Church

Nacogdoches, Texas



Transfiguration – Sinai 12th century

February 26, 2017
Transfiguration of the Lord

¹⁸ For Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit, ¹⁹ in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, ²⁰ who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were saved through water. ²¹ And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you—not as a removal of dirt from the body, but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, ²² who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him. First Peter 3:18-22