

Transfiguration Sunday
February 27, 2022

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude		Christopher A. McCroskey
Call To Worship	<i>“Spirit of God, Descend upon My Heart”</i>	Choir
Opening Prayer		

*Hymn	<i>“Holy Ground”</i>	TFWS 2272
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Prayer of the Day		
The Lord’s Prayer		895

Proclamation of the Word

Prayer of Illumination

Old Testament Reading	Exodus 34:29-35	Page 80 (O.T.)
Psalter	Psalm 99	819-820

*Hymn	<i>“My Hope Is Built”</i>	368
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New Testament Reading	2 Corinthians 3:12 - 4:2	Page 170 (N.T.)
Gospel Reading	Luke 9:28-43	Pages 68-69 (N.T.)
Sermon	<i>Seeing God’s Glory</i>	Rev. John D. Jordan

Response to the Word

*Affirmation of Faith	<i>“The Apostles’ Creed”</i>	881
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Presentation of Tithes & Offerings

Offertory		Christopher A. McCroskey
*Doxology	<i>“Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow”</i>	95

*Hymn	<i>“Soon and Very Soon”</i>	706
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*Dismissal With Benediction

*Benediction Response	<i>”Shalom to You”</i>	Choir
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*Postlude		Christopher A. McCroskey
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*The Congregation May Stand

Leading in Worship Today

Pastor:	John D. Jordan	AV Director: Marie Stiles
Choir Director:	Christopher A. McCroskey	AV Assistant: Chris Derrick
Church Musician		Time Together: Wayne & Charlie Hooker

VISITORS ARE WELCOME in the service of worship! Please make use of the visitor’s tags (located in the pew backs) to help us better welcome you as a visitor to Trinity this morning. We ask that you also please fill in the pew pad as it passes to register your attendance with us. **Large print hymnals** are available from the ushers.

You may join as a member into the life and work of this congregation by Confession of Faith or by Transfer of Membership from another church. If you would be interested in becoming a member, please speak to the pastor.

TODAY’S LOVELY FLOWERS are given to the ***Glory of God.***

“AS MEMBERS OF THIS CONGREGATION, WE WILL FAITHFULLY PARTICIPATE IN ITS MINISTRIES BY OUR PRAYERS...

Jackie McNeill	Boots Morgan	Bill Perarson	Patsy Zeigler	Dale Wells	Charles McNeill
Jimmy Grahl	Oren Edwards	Latson Lewis	Irvin Wells	Steve Aiello	Patsy Shuler
George Taylor	Jimmy Grahl	Kay Jordan	Becky Derrick	John Ballentine	

Shut-Ins: Shirley Butler; Esther Carter; Nell Cooke; Carolyn Hardee; Gillett Hipp; June Hutto; Georgeann Pace; Shirley Padgett; Jean Raynor; Claudia Sineath; Irvin Wells; Pauline Wenner

Family and Friends: **Stacy Coggins** (daughter of Steve Aiello); **Dan & Leslie White** (brother & sister-in-law of Steve White); **Dolly Orth** (mother-in-law of Allison Frady Orth); **Sydney** (girlfriend of friend of Marty Johnson); **Alva Humphries** (friend of Marty Johnson); **Neal Hart** (uncle of Dee Senn); **Bill Areheart** (friend of Bonnie Ramsey); **Jane & Bob Bryant** (sister and brother-in-law of Patsy Zeigler); **Chal Whitaker** (brother-in-law of Edwa Meek); **Max Nova** (son of friend of Edwa Meek); **Addie Kinard** (cousin of coworker of Edwa Meek); **Stuart & Penny Lloyd** (son & daughter-in-law of Tom & Marilyn Lloyd); **Cindy Ellenberg** (friend of Ray Frady); **Megan Corby** (daughter of Carlis Edwards); **Chip Hooker** (Wayne Hooker's father); **Robert Bradley** (Business Associate of Simon Ross); **Dino & Wanda Moore** (friend of Tommy Gleaton); **Gary Becton** (friend of Mark Branham); **Wade Albert Payne** (friend of Mary Louise Robinson); **Audrey Cassady** (sister-in-law of Mary Louise Robinson); **Monnie Tiller** (friend of Chris Derrick); **Betty Jean Newton** (sister-in-law of Mary Kamoroff); **Adrin & Linda Hargett** (stepfather and stepmom of Christopher McCroskey); **Alexa Lookingbill** (wife of coworker of Kathy White); **Katelyn Rose** (daughter of co-worker of Kathy White); **Vickie Edwards** (neighbor of Kathy White); **Ty Moore, George Dorn** (friends of Kay Jordan); **Teddy Derrick** (uncle of Arvan Derrick); **Haidee Baehr** (friends of Ruth Frady); **Dianne Schmotzer** (sister-in-law of Gale Frady); **Denise Paul, Scott & Karen Nelson** (cousins of Gale Frady); **Dan Conner, Max Johnson** (friends of Gale Frady); **Ray Culbreth's Group House**; **Nellie Gantt** (mother of friend of Ray Culbreth); **Amelia Zinski** (great-niece of Linda Maloch); **Wayne Blair** (son of Dot Johnson); **Xavier Crane** (grandnephew of John Ballentine); **Walt & Janet Beck** (friends of Jo Ann Heiting); **Jeff DuBrul** (son-in-law of Walt and Janet Beck); **Adam Lavender** (son of Phil Lavender)

If you have a friend or family member on the Prayer List, we ask you to please keep us updated. If no word is received, we will trust that our prayers have been answered and remove the name. To update us, please call the office or e-mail us at trinityumcwc@sc.rr.com.

OUR PRESENCE ...

In-Person Attendance 02/20 SS: 10 Worship: 28

OUR GIFTS ...

General Fund 02/20 \$ 2,006.39

OUR SERVICE ...

OUR WITNESS."

Upcoming Events

03/01 Fat Tuesday Pancake Supper, 6 p.m.

03/02 Ash Wednesday Service, 6 p.m.



Ministers

Pastor

Resident Bishop

District Superintendent

The Congregation

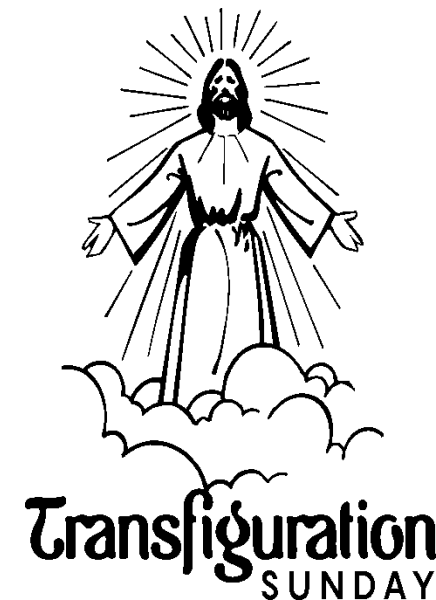
John D. Jordan

Jonathan Holston

Rev. Dr. Cathy Jamieson

Our mission is to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

Our vision is to Connect, Nurture, Inspire and Transform

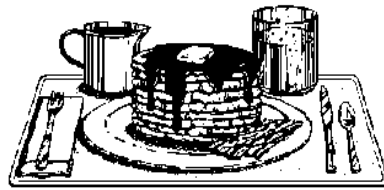


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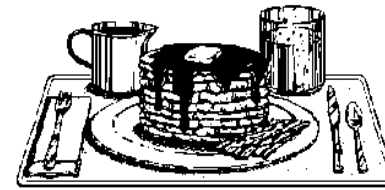
E-mail: trinityumcwc@sc.rr.com

Website: www.trinityumcwc.org



Fat Tuesday Pancake Supper
Tuesday, March 1
6 p.m.

Plan now to join us on Tuesday, March 1, at 6 p.m. for a wonderful pancake supper served with sausage prepared by the Men's Club. There is no charge, but donations will be accepted.



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Wednesday, March 2
6 p.m.

The Ash Wednesday Service will be held on Wednesday, March 2, at 6 p.m. Ash Wednesday is the first day of Lent, beginning a period of reflection and penance. In the Christian tradition, Ash Wednesday also marks the beginning of preparation for the understanding of the death and resurrection of Christ.



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Wonderful Wednesday
March 9
5:30 p.m.

Wonderful Wednesday will be held on March 9. The meal will be served at 5:30 p.m. and a devotional will begin at 6:15 p.m. The meal will be prepared by John and Sue Ballentine:

- Homemade Chicken Pot Pie
- Pasta Salad
- Dessert

Reservations will be in the bulletin on Sunday, March 6, or you can call the Church Office by noon on Monday, March 7.



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Peter, John, and James went with Jesus up a mountain to pray. Eight days before this, Peter had identified Jesus as the Messiah. Then, Jesus foretold his death and resurrection. Jesus told the disciples that to become his followers, they should take up their cross daily and follow him.

If I were John, the disciple, I would have had a lot of questions over the past eight days. If Jesus is the Messiah, what is this about being rejected, suffering, and dying? What is this about being raised on the third day? Then take up my cross daily and follow him, what is that supposed to mean? These would be some of the questions I would be pondering if I walked up that mountain.

Instead of answers, Peter, John, and James experienced something unexpected. While Jesus was praying, a change took place. Jesus' face changed and his clothes became dazzling white. Then there were two men, Moses and Elijah, talking to him. They appeared in glory and were discussing what was going to happen to Jesus in Jerusalem. Jesus appeared to Peter, John, and James in his glory, a way that could not be described. Instead of answers to their questions, Peter, John, and James saw Jesus in glory. They also saw the lawgiver, Moses, and the great prophet, Elijah, in their glory. They saw the glory of the law, the prophets, and the Messiah. Wow! Talk about a mountain top experience!

We long to see God's glory. We think of this dazzling, eye-popping, emotionally overwhelming experience as being God's glory. We think of our mountain top experiences as being the closest we have to God's glory. We think our glimpses of God's glory come during our acts of piety, while we are praying, reading our Bibles, or during a church service.

I know I have experienced God's glory during times of prayer and Bible reading. At times when I am doing centering prayer, my posture changes and my legs begin to shake and I feel God's glory. I often experienced God during camp meetings, revivals, and lay witness missions as a youth. But ask me to describe God's glory? I cannot. God's glory is indescribable for we humans cannot understand, much less describe, the divine.

We may ask, "What is God's glory?" Fredrick Buechner defines glory as "the outward manifestation of that hand (God's) in its handiwork (creation)." He goes on to say, "Glory is what God looks like when for the time being all you have to look at him with is a pair of eyes."¹ Glory is all we can say when we see and experience God.

Moses manifested God's glory after he saw God, or at least God's back, on Mt Sinai. This glory was so great that he had to wear a veil so others could look at him. Elijah manifested God's glory by being carried up to heaven in a fiery chariot and did not experience death. So, how would Jesus manifest God's glory?

This is the answer to the questions we had earlier. Jesus would manifest God's glory through his suffering, death, and resurrection. Huh? God's glory is manifested through Jesus' suffering, death, and resurrection? Wouldn't it seem more glorious if Jesus just ascended into heaven after conquering Rome and other evil powers?

¹ Fredrick Buechner, *Wishful Thinking: A Theological ABC*, (New York: Harper & Row Publishers, 1973), 30.

But one of the purposes of Jesus' life is the healing of creation. Jesus came into the world so that the world could be saved through him. Jesus came to restore wholeness to us and all creation. This restoration of wholeness could only come through the atoning sacrifice of Jesus on the cross.

So, it is no coincidence that upon coming down from the mountain, the first episode is healing. A man comes to Jesus with his son who is possessed by a demon. The disciples have tried but have been unable to cast the demon out of the boy. Now the twelve had been given authority and power over all demons back at the beginning of this chapter but they could not cast out this demon.

I wonder if the disciples' faith was weakened upon hearing that Jesus would suffer, die, and be raised. The disciples may have begun to question their trust and confidence in Jesus. Thus Jesus calls them a faithless and perverse generation. Jesus rebukes the spirit and the boy is healed, restored to wholeness.

God's glory is manifested anytime healing and wholeness take place. When we have trust and confidence in Jesus we can see God's glory as we are healed and our relationships are restored.

We see God's glory through our acts of piety as our relationship with God is being restored. We further see and manifest God's glory as we grow in holiness, coming to love God and neighbor more. This is the purpose of the class meetings we will be beginning in March, to help each other grow in holiness.

We see God's glory in any act of reconciliation and healing. We manifest God's glory in our acts of mercy. We manifest God's glory as we do great things: preach at a nursing home, work on a habitat house, advocate for someone. We also manifest God's glory as we do simple things like calling the cashier at Food Lion by name, giving a dollar or some food to the homeless person, inviting a new neighbor to dinner.

We see the glory of God on the mountaintop. We see the glory of God at those times we feel the greatness and presence of God. We see the glory of God at those times when the Spirit moves us and we hear God's call for us.

We see the glory of God anytime healing and restoration take place. We see God in physical healing and the prevention of disease. We see the glory of God when broken relationships are restored and we become reconciled with God and others. We see the glory of God even in death.

When I was working as a hospice chaplain, I was called to one of the nursing homes. A patient who had long suffered from dementia was dying. When I arrived in the room, three of her daughters and a granddaughter were sitting around the bed in silence. I asked the granddaughter to tell me about her grandmother. As she did, the daughters began telling stories about their mom. After a while, I had to leave but asked if I could pray with them. We held hands around the bed. As I began to pray we heard a rustling of the sheets. From under the sheets, the patient's hand slowly rose to join in the prayer. At a time when the daughters and granddaughter thought they would be separated from their mother, the mother joined us reminding us that she was being made whole. That was seeing God's glory.

We see God's glory every time there is healing and restoration taking place. We manifest God's glory every time we work for healing and restoration. When we leave here today may we have trust and confidence that God is healing and restoring us, others, and all creation. May we manifest God's glory in our acts of piety to heal and restore our relationship with God and in our acts of mercy as we heal and restore our relationship with others.