



He was transfigured before
them, and his face shone like
the sun, and his clothes
became white as light.

Matthew 17:2, ESV

A SPECIAL WELCOME TO OUR GUESTS:

We extend a warm welcome from Bethel Presbyterian Church!
We invite you to participate in signing the Friendship Folders adding your name
and address and if you desire a church newsletter or a pastoral call.

When we pray the Lord's Prayer, we say "sins...sin against us"
rather than "debts..." or "trespasses..."

Prayer requests can be noted on the cards provided in the pew racks
and placed in the offering plate.

**The Service for the Lord's Day
Bethel Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)
Transfiguration of the Lord
February 19, 2023 - 11:00 AM**

** Indicates congregation standing if able. Parents with infants may remain seated.
Congregational responses indicated in bold.*

GATHERING AND GREETING OF GOD'S PEOPLE

Chiming of the Hour

Welcome and Announcements

Please sign the Friendship Pad found in your pew, passing it down the pew then back.

Prelude

Call to Worship (*L = Leader, P = People*)

L: The Holy One is our sovereign.

P: Let us praise God's great and awesome name!

L: Mighty ruler, lover of justice,

P: you have established fairness among us.

Prayer of Invocation

Let us pray:

God of majesty and might,

you have blessed us with revelations of your glory.

Give us the gift of faith,

that we may hear your voice for ourselves

and see Jesus Christ revealed to us

that we may stand on our own without fear. Amen.

* Hymn No. 12 **“IMMORTAL, INVISIBLE, GOD ONLY WISE”**

ST. DENIO

*Im-mor-tal, in-vis-i-ble, God on-ly wise,
in light in-ac-ces-si-ble hid from our eyes,
most bless-ed, most glo-ri-ous, the An-cient of Days,
al-might-y, vic-to-ri-ous, thy great name we praise.*

*Un-rest-ing, un-hast-ing, and si-lent as light,
nor want-ing, nor wast-ing, thou rul-est in might:
thy jus-tice, like moun-tains high soar-ing a-bove;
thy clouds, which are foun-tains of good-ness and love.*

*To all, life thou giv-est, to both great and small.
In all life thou liv-est, the true life of all.
We blos-som and flour-ish like leaves on the tree,
then with-er and per-ish; but naught chang-eth thee.*

*Thou reign-est in glo-ry; thou dwell-est in light.
Thine an-gels a-dore thee, all veil-ing their sight.
All praise we would ren-der; O help us to see
‘tis on-ly the spen-dor of light hid-eth thee!*

* Call to Confession

Trusting in God’s steadfast love, let us confess our sin.

* Corporate Prayer of Confession

**Glorious God, you are all wisdom and a lamp to our feet,
yet we fail to listen to you and neglect to follow your guidance.
Forgive us, heal us, and lead us on,
that we may walk in your ways and be happy in your refuge;
in Jesus our Christ we pray. Amen.**

* Sung Response No. 576 **“LORD, HAVE MERCY”**

SINGAPURA

*Lord, have mer-cy.
Christ, have mer-cy.
Lord, have mer-cy on us.*

* Declaration of Forgiveness

The good news of our faith is this:

if we call upon God we will be answered and forgiven.

That promise gives us peace and joy;

let us share that peace and joy with one another.

* Sung Response No. 585

“GLORY TO GOD” (*Verse 1*)

MACHU-PICHU

Glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, glo-ry in the high-est!

To God be glo-ry for-ev-er!

Al-le-lu-ia, A-men! Al-le-lu-ia, A-men!

Al-le-lu-ia, A-men!

THE WORD

Children’s Moment

Choral Anthem

Prayer for Illumination

Let us pray:

God our light, make us attentive to your Word

as to a lamp shining in a dark place,

that seeing your truth we may live faithful lives

until that great day dawns and the morning star rises in our hearts. Amen

Readings from Scripture

Torah	Exodus 24:12-18	<i>(The Blood of the Covenant)</i>	Pg. 68
Wisdom	Psalm 99	<i>(Praise to God for His Holiness)</i>	Pg. 522
Gospel	Matthew 17:1-9	<i>(The Transfiguration)</i>	Pg. 17

Sermon

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

* Affirmation of Faith

Adapted from the Confession of 1967, 9.08

**In Jesus of Nazareth, true humanity was realized once for all.
Jesus, a Palestinian Jew, lived among his own people
and shared their needs, temptations, joys, and sorrows.
He expressed the love of God in word and deed
and became a brother to all kinds of sinful men and women.
But his complete obedience led him into conflict with his people.
His life and teaching judged their goodness,
religious aspirations, and national hopes.
Many rejected him and demanded his death.
In giving himself freely for them, he took upon himself the judgement
under which everyone stands convicted.
God raised him from the dead, vindicated him as Messiah and Lord.
The victim of sin became victor,
and won the victory over sin and death for all.**

Sharing of Joys and Concerns

Prayers of the People

Sovereign God,

you revealed your love and guidance for us
on Mount Sinai and the Mount of Transfiguration,
giving us a vision of how to live in equity and peace.

Trusting in your care for us, we bring to you our prayers.

We pray for your church,

that it may be the light of love for all people.

We pray for the nations of the world,

that their governors may be wise and compassionate.

We pray for those who suffer illness or oppression,

that our care for them may bring your healing and liberation.

We pray for your creation,
that we may be your wise and obedient stewards.

We pray for all those who are in search of you,
that they may walk by the lamp of your Spirit
and be at peace in your light now and forever.

Joined together in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all majesty and honor are yours, Holy One,
forever and ever. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer (*sin / sin against us*)

Hymnal pg. 35

**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 sins,
as we forgive those who sin against us;
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power,
and the glory, forever. Amen.**

Call to Offering

Our God has revealed to us a law and a love
that leads us into becoming God's own daughters and sons.
Therefore, let us gratefully give from that which has first been given to us,
our lives, our talents, and our possessions.

Offertory

* Hymn No. 606 **“PRAISE GOD, FROM WHOM ALL BLESSINGS FLOW”**

* Prayer of Dedication of Gifts and Self

Let us pray:

God of mountaintops and valleys,

be our vision of you clouded or brilliantly clear,

we faithfully add our gifts to those being given all around us.

Bless these offerings that they may be transfigured
into your presence in the world. Amen.

THE SENDING FORTH

* Hymn No. 192 **“LORD, THE LIGHT OF YOUR LOVE IS SHINING”**
 (SHINE, JESUS, SHINE)

*Lord, the light of your love is shin-ing
in the midst of the dark-ness, shin-ing;
Je-sus, Light of the World, shine up-on us;
set us free by the truth you now bring us.
Shine on me; shine on me.*

*Shine, Je-sus, shine;
fill this land with the Fa-ther's glo-ry.
Blaze, Spir-it, blaze;
set our hearts on fire.
Flow, riv-er, flow;
flood the na-tions with grace and mer-cy.
Send forth your word,
Lord, and let there be light.*

*Lord, I come to your awe-some pres-ence
from the shad-ows in-to your ra-diance;
by the blood I may en-ter your bright-ness.
Search me; try me; con-sume all my dark-ness.
Shine on me; shine on me*

*Shine, Je-sus, shine;
fill this land with the Fa-ther's glo-ry.
Blaze, Spir-it, blaze; set our hearts on fire.
Flow, riv-er, flow; flood the na-tions with grace and mer-cy.
Send forth your word, Lord, and let there be light.*

*As we gaze on your king-ly bright-ness,
so our fac-es dis-play your like-ness;
ev-er chang-ing from glo-ry to glo-ry,
mir-rored here may our lives tell your sto-ry.
Shine on me; shine on me.*

*Shine, Je-sus, shine;
fill this land with the Fa-ther's glo-ry.
Blaze, Spir-it, blaze; set our hearts on fire.
Flow, riv-er, flow; flood the na-tions with grace and mer-cy.
Send forth your word, Lord, and let there be light.*

* Benediction

Christ has been revealed to us
that we might follow him and transform the world.
Go in love, work for peace.

May the self-revealing God be a lamp on your way
as the day dawns and rises within you.

* Sung Response No. 541 “**GOD BE WITH YOU TILL WE MEET AGAIN**”

*God be with you till we meet a-gain;
lov-ing coun-sels guide, up-hold you,
with a shep-herds care en-fold you:
God be with you till we meet a-gain.*

* Postlude

MUSIC ATTRIBUTIONS

“Lord, Have Mercy”

Text: Trad. Liturgical text

Music: Swee Hong Lim, 1990

Music © 1990 Swee Hong Lim

(admin. General Board of Global Ministries t/a GBGMusik)

“Lord, the Light of Your Love Is Shining”

Text & Music: Graham Kendrick, 1987

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“Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise”

“Glory to God”

“Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”

“God Be with You Till We Meet Again”

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