

First Presbyterian Church of Rolla
Worship Service on Transfiguration Sunday

February 14, 2021

Welcome

Prelude: *Fantasie in d minor* - Johann Krieger

Call to Worship

The glory of God shines like a consuming fire.

We have seen the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

The voice of God thunders like a mighty storm.

Out of the cloud, God speaks:

This is my beloved Son; listen to him!

Prayer of the Day

Holy and mighty God, gather us among your faithful ones, the people of your covenant, to stand in the light of your glory and listen for the word of the Lord, Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

Hymn: *Jesus, Take Us to the Mountain*

Prayers of Intercession

*Lord, by your Spirit, **grant what we ask.***

Special Music: *O Splendor of God's Glory Bright*

Old Testament Reading: 2 Kings 2:1-12

Gospel Lesson: Mark 9:2-9

Sermon: Imagination, Not Fear

Affirmation of Faith

God's sovereign love is a mystery beyond the reach of the human mind. Human thought ascribes to God superlatives of power, wisdom, and goodness. But God reveals divine love in Jesus Christ by showing power in the form of a servant, wisdom in the folly of the cross, and goodness in receiving sinful men and women. The power of God's love in Christ to transform the world discloses that the Redeemer is the Lord and Creator who made all things to serve the purpose of God's

love.

Hymn: *The Mighty God with Power Speaks*

Charge and Benediction

Postlude: *Fugue in C Major* - Johann Pachelbel

Questions for Reflection

The Old Testament reading for today presents Elijah as a “new Moses”—striking the Jordan with his mantle and causing its waters to part so that he and Elisha could pass through on dry ground (2 Kgs. 2:8). The Gospel reading builds on this comparison by placing Moses and Elijah together at Jesus’ transfiguration (Mark 9:4). There is also a parent-child dynamic in each of these passages. Elisha asks to receive a “double share” of Elijah’s spirit (2 Kgs. 2:9)—the appointed inheritance of a firstborn son (see Deut. 21:17). At the transfiguration, God’s voice from the cloud bestows on Jesus the mantle of divine authority: “This is my Son, the Beloved; listen to him!” What do these constellations of relationships suggest to you? How do they help you to understand the transfiguration of Jesus? How is Jesus a fulfillment of the law (Moses) and the prophets (Elijah)? (See also Luke 24:44.) How is Jesus revealed to be God’s Son, and what does that mean for us? (See also Luke 3:22, 38.)

Household Prayer: Morning

God of glory, I greet you
at the dawning of this day.
Let my life proclaim Christ Jesus
and the good news of the gospel
from the rising of the sun to its setting;
to the glory of your name. Amen.

Household Prayer: Evening

God of glory, I greet you
at the ending of this day.
Overshadow me with your peace
so that I may rest in your presence
from the setting of the sun to its rising;
to the glory of your name. Amen.

Scriptures are read from the NRSV translation. Music performed by Lorie Francis, Mary Kwantes, and Jeff Sandquist. Worship led by Rev. Lou Ellen Hartley. Portions of the service drawn from the PC(USA) Book of Common Worship, used by permission.