



**LOVE FIRST.
SERVE FIRST.**

**FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
OF MONTCLAIR & VERONA**



© Ling Chen | lingchen.art

**WE WELCOME YOU ALL TO OUR SUNDAY SERVICE
AND APPRECIATE YOUR VIRTUAL PRESENCE AND PARTICIPATION.**

February 14, 2021 + Transfiguration Sunday + 10:00 AM

Bolded text - said in unison by all

UMH - *United Methodist Hymnal*

TFWS – *The Faith We Sing*

** If able, please stand where indicated.*

CALLED TO PRAISE AND PRAY

Prelude

"Be Thou My Vision" – Arr: Edward Broughton

Welcome and Announcements

***Call to Worship**

Leader: We have seen the light of God;

People: **on high mountains of celebration and in the ecstasy of a lover's embrace.**

Leader: We have seen the light of God;

People: through the bitter scorn of betrayal and the searing chasm of grief.

Leader: We have seen the light of God;

**People: with eyes that have been shaded, with eyes that have been opened,
with eyes that have been blinded.**

Leader: We have seen the light of God.

***Opening Hymn**

Fairest Lord Jesus

UMH 189

Fairest Lord Jesus, ruler of all nature,
O thou of God and man the Son,
Thee will I cherish, Thee will I honor,
thou, my soul's glory, joy, and crown.

Fair is the sunshine, fairer still the moonlight,
and all the twinkling starry host:
Jesus shines brighter, Jesus shines purer
than all the angels heaven can boast.

Opening Prayer

Holy God, mighty and immortal, you are beyond our knowing, yet we see your glory in the face of Jesus Christ, whose compassion illumines the world. Transform us into the likeness of the love of Christ, who renewed our humanity so that we may share in his divinity, the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who live and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Prayer of Yearning

All: Shine upon us with your grace, that we might see what frightens us and face what threatens us. Flow through us with your mercy, that we might sense your presence, even when we have run away, and that we may know your love, even when we feel most unlovable. Abide in us with your love, for your love claims us and makes us whole.

(Pausing for Silent Prayer...)

Words of Assurance

Leader: Even in the darkest of times, the light of God is shining. The light of Christ's love and mercy are shining now, brightening our lives with mercy and grace.

All: Stay with us, Creator God. Live in us, Christ Jesus. Abide in us, Holy Spirit. Amen!

Sharing Our Joys & Concerns

Please share your joys and concerns in any of the following ways:

- Share it in the church's WhatsApp group (First UMC of Montclair).
- Write it as a comment on the wall of the Facebook Livestream.

Pastoral Prayer

Lord's Prayer

Responsive Hymn

He Is Exalted

TFWS 2070

He is exalted, the King is exalted on High; I will praise Him.
He is exalted forever exalted and I will praise His name!
He is the Lord, forever His truth shall reign; Heaven and Earth
Rejoice in His holy name. He is exalted, the King is exalted on high.

CALLED TO THE WORD

***Psalter Reading**

Psalm 50:1-6

UMH 783

Leader: The mighty one, God the LORD, speaks and summons the earth from the rising of the sun to its setting.

People: Out of Zion, the perfection of beauty, God shines forth.

Leader: Our God comes and does not keep silence, before him is a devouring fire, and a mighty tempest all around him.

People: He calls to the heavens above and to the earth, that he may judge his people:

Leader: "Gather to me my faithful ones, who made a covenant with me by sacrifice!"

People: The heavens declare his righteousness, for God himself is judge. Selah.

Hymn of Illumination

Turn Your Eyes upon Jesus

UMH 349

Turn your eyes upon Jesus, look full in His wonderful face,
And the things of earth will grow strangely dim,
In the light of His glory and grace.

New Testament Lesson

2 Corinthians 4:3-6

Eliza Lopez

And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. For we do not proclaim ourselves; we proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and ourselves as your slaves for Jesus' sake. For it is the God who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

***Gospel Lesson**

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, and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no one on earth could bleach them. And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses, who were talking with Jesus. 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." He did not know what to say, for they were terrified. Then a cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud there came a voice, "This is my Son, the Beloved; listen to him!" Suddenly when they looked around, they saw no one with them any more, but only Jesus. 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

"Taken Away; Yet Ever Present"

Dr. Michael Stewart

***Passing the Peace of Christ**

CALLED TO SHARE

Offering

***Doxology**

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

UMH 95

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow, Praise God, all creatures here below:
Praise him above ye heavenly host, praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

***Prayer of Dedication**

CALLED TO WITNESS IN THE WORLD

***Closing Hymn**

I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light

UMH 206

I want to walk as a child of the light. I want to follow Jesus
God sent the stars to give light to the world. The star of my life is Jesus.
In Him, there is no darkness at all. The night and the day are both alike.
The Lamb is the light of the city of God. Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.

***Sending Forth**

Leader: Go now, and speak of what you have seen of God's glory.
Do not cling to the holy moments when heaven overshadows you,
but as the Lord lives, listen to Christ and follow him
from the places of revelation to the places of mission.
And may God shine the light of glory into your hearts.
May Christ be with you and never leave you.
And may the Spirit renew the image of God within you.

People: We go in peace to love and serve the Lord. In the name of Christ. Amen.

***Circle of Blessing**

Shalom to You

UMH 666

Shalom to you now, shalom, my friends. May God's full mercies bless you, my friends.
In all your living and through your loving, Christ be your shalom, Christ be your shalom.

Postlude

"All Creatures of Our God & King – Arr: Lani Smith

Please continue to pray for all those affected by the pandemic.