

A CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP

February 6, 2005

The Transfiguration of the Lord

8:30 and 11:00 am

*All who are able may stand.

Bold type spoken by the congregation

THE PEOPLE GATHER. . .

The Prelude

“In the Garden”

Jubilate Ringers

The Welcome and Announcements

The Introit

The Call To Worship

The Prayer of Praise

We come with reverence to praise and adore you, O God. You have given your beloved Son for our salvation, and made the nations his inheritance, the ends of the earth his possession. You call us to be part of your household, and therein to partake of your promise. We gather as your people, attentive to your word and ready to do your bidding. All praise be to you O God our Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer. Amen.

*The Hymn 75

“O Wondrous Sight, O Vision Fair”

*The Prayer of Confession

God of dazzling splendor, we confess that we have lived in a cloud, hiding from your glory and pretending not to notice the wonders of your majesty. The mystery of life eludes us; we take for granted what seems commonplace and refuse to deal with matters beyond our understanding. We have tried to put our religion in a compartment separate from the rest of life. We have not sought to serve you in everyday encounters. Shake our complacency and forgive us our sins. . . (time for silent confession). . .

*The Choral Response

*The Assurance of Pardon

Jesus came and touched them saying,
“Get up and do not be afraid.”
Get up sisters and brothers. Do not be afraid.
You are forgiven, You are loved.
Thanks be to God. Amen.

*The Gloria Patri

p. 579 in the Hymnal

*The Peace and Greeting

The peace of Christ be with you all. **And also with you!**
(Please exchange this ancient greeting with worshippers seated near you.
Please stand to greet one another in the name of Christ.)

TO HEAR THE WORD OF GOD. . .

The Prayer for Illumination

The *Old Testament* Lesson: *Exodus 24:12-18* p. 66 in the pew Bible

The *Psalter* Lesson: *Psalms 2* p. 465 in the pew Bible

The Anthem "Ye Followers of the Lamb" Edwin Earle Ferguson

The *Epistle* Lesson: *2 Peter 1:16-21* p. 1062 in the pew Bible

A Moment With the Children

Reception of New Members

*The *Apostles' Creed* p. 14 in the Hymnal
Prayer

Eternal God our one true Parent: we praise you for calling us to be a servant people, and for gathering us into the body of Christ. We thank you for choosing to add to our number sisters and brothers in faith. We bless you for their gifts, their talents, and their journeys of faith that bring them to this time and place. Together, may we live in your Spirit, and so love one another, that we may have the mind of Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom we give honor and glory forever. Amen.

*The Hymn 438 "Blest Be the Tie That Binds"

The *Gospel* Lesson: *Matthew 17:1-9* p. 851 in the pew Bible

The Sermon "Eyewitnesses of Majesty"
Allen H. Fisher, Jr.

AND TO MAKE PROPER RESPONSE. . .

The Prayers of the People
The Lord's Prayer p. 16 in the Hymnal

The Service of Offering
The Gathering of Our Gifts

The Offertory

*The Doxology and Prayer of Dedication Doxology, p. 592 in the Hymnal

The news of your Beloved One, glorious God, is a lamp shining in a dark place. Thank you for your light. We bring our gifts and offerings as tokens of our love and expressions of our faith. Use them and us, we pray, to bring light to those who dwell in places of deep darkness. Since we know neither the day nor the hour of our Lord's coming, we trust you for the time of Christ's return and ask for grace to make us ready. In the sacred name of your Son our Saviour we pray. Amen.

GO IN GOD'S NAME. . .

*The Hymn 73 "Swiftly Pass the Clouds of Glory"

*The Charge & Benediction

*The Postlude