



ST. CHARLES AVENUE
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Online Worship

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2021 | TRANSFIGURATION OF OUR LORD

GATHERING

*Good Morning and welcome to worship at St. Charles Avenue Presbyterian Church. Today is the Transfiguration of our Lord.
This is the day the Lord has made, let us rejoice and be glad in it.*

WELCOME TO WORSHIP AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Michael Jinkins

CALL TO WORSHIP "Let us worship God."

VOLUNTARY

"Largo" from *Sonata in C*
Steven B. Blackmon

Vivaldi

PRAYER OF APPROACH (*from Psalm 50*)

Savannah Fraser

You are the mighty one, O God, who speaks and summons the whole earth to hear. From Zion your beauty shines forth among all the nations. O God, we call upon you and ask that you do not keep silent. As in ages long ago, announce again your presence among us through fire and tempest, reminding us that there is a justice that cannot be quelled and that you hold its scales in your hands. The heavens themselves declare your righteousness, and we are glad you have entered into covenant with us, your creatures. Amen.

HYMN

"God of Grace and God of Glory"

CWM RHONDDA

God of grace and God of glory, on thy people pour thy power;
crown thine ancient church's story; bring its bud to glorious flower.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, for the facing of this hour, for the facing of this hour.

Lo! The hosts of evil round us scorn thy Christ, assail his ways!
From the fears that long have bound us free our hearts to faith and praise.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, for the living of these days, for the living of these days.

Cure thy children's warring madness; bend our pride to thy control;
shame our wanton, selfish gladness, rich in things and poor in soul.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, lest we miss thy kingdom's goal, lest we miss thy kingdom's goal.

Save us from weak resignation to the evils we deplore.
Let the gift of thy salvation be our glory evermore.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, serving thee whom we adore, serving thee whom we adore.

CALL TO CONFESSION

The glory of Christ transfigured fills the skies, the beauty of Christ humbled fills our hearts. We are invited to draw near to Christ Jesus who in the act of forgiving sinners reveals the glory of God. Let us confess together.

CORPORATE CONFESSION OF SIN

Wherever you meet us, O God, whether on the bright mountaintop or deep in the valley of shadows, we find you to be the same Lord of mercy; you are the one who meets us wherever we are, but will not leave us where you found us. Forgive us today for placing so much emphasis on your forgiveness of our sins past that we have neglected to remember we are called to live fully in you now and in the future. We do take comfort

in knowing that you have blotted out what we have done and left undone which dishonors our humanity, but we need your Spirit to encourage us to go forth in the power of your love. Forgive us, we pray, and strengthen us for what lies ahead. Amen.

SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Be assured, rest assured, trust in the Lord for he is good and his mercy is everlasting. In the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Amen.

THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Illuminate our hearts, O God, that we may recognize the light shining through your Word. Amen.

THE EPISTLE LESSON

2 Corinthians 4:3-6

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.

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

MESSAGE FOR THE CHILDREN

Kate Prechter

THE 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.

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

"Blinded by the Gods"

Michael Jenkins

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH "The Apostles' Creed"

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

GLORIA PATRI

GLORIA PATRI

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

OFFERTORY

"The Lord Is My Shepherd"
Taylor Miller, baritone

Wilberg

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Present God, make us conscious of your presence.

Holy God, set us aside for your purposes.

Merciful God, hear us as we pray.

God, we pray for your world today, for people whom we have never met and never will, multitudes who are not multitudes to you but are many individuals you know and love by name.

We see and we hear of suffering, of political oppression, of cruelty and violence committed, of disasters and famines, of illnesses and deaths, and our hearts ache, but we feel impotent to act, unaware of what we can or even should do.

We are taught that as the body of Christ we are his hands and feet, but where should we go? What can we do?

We would not shrink from your calling. We would not. But we are confused and uncertain, and, yes, frightened.

A world of desperate need surrounds us, a world scarred by wickedness and the shattering forces of nature itself. We grow weary in our sympathy, and find that our wells of living water run to drought when the land is in greatest need.

We have heard it said that you will not break a bruised reed, that you are drawn to the humble heart. We place ourselves, therefore, before you, bruised and humbled; we pray for whatever it is we need that we may be for others what Christ has become for us. Amen.

**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 debts,
as we forgive our debtors;
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

SENDING

HYMN

"Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies"

RATISBON

Christ, whose glory fills the skies; Christ, the true, the only light;
Sun of Righteousness, arise; triumph o'er the shades of night;
Day-spring from on high, be near; Day-star, in my heart appear.

Dark and cheerless is the morn unaccompanied by thee;
joyless is the day's return till thy mercy's beams I see;
till they inward light impart, cheer my eyes and warm my heart.

Visit then this soul of mine; pierce the gloom of sin and grief;
Fill me, radiancy divine; scatter all my unbelief;
More and more thyself display, shining to the perfect day.

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

CHORAL RESPONSE

"The Irish Blessing"
SCAPC Virtual Chancel Choir

Blackmon

VOLUNTARY

"Festive Trumpet Tune"
Steven B. Blackmon

German