



Centenary

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

February 14, 2021

Transfiguration Sunday

(As the Prelude begins, you are invited to enter a time of prayer and meditation as we prepare to worship God together.)

The Prelude

Prelude on NETTLETON

David S. Harris

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The Welcome

The Opening Prayer

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Let us pray.

All: The darkness of winter has been our companion, Lord.

Now the days are lengthening.

Bring your light to us,

that we might see your glory

and may work for you,

offering hope and peace to this world.

We ask this, in Jesus' name. Amen.

The Hymn No. 2103

We Have Come at Christ's Own Bidding

HYFRYDOL

1. We have come at Christ's own bidding
to this high and holy place,
where we wait with hope and longing
for some token of God's grace.
Here we pray for new assurance
that our faith is not in vain,
searching like those first disciples
for a sign both clear and plain.
2. Light breaks through our clouds and shadows,
splendor bathes the flesh-joined Word,
Moses and Elijah marvel
as the heavenly voice is heard.
Eyes and hearts behold with wonder
how the Law and Prophets meet:
Christ with garments drenched in brightness,
stands transfigured and complete.

3. Strengthened by this glimpse of glory,
fearful lest our faith decline,
we, like Peter, find it tempting
to remain and build a shrine.
But true worship gives us courage
to proclaim what we profess,
that our daily lives may prove us
people of the God we bless.

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The Scripture Lesson

2 Corinthians 4:3-6

The Sermon

Seeing through the Clouds

Dr. Matthew D. Bates

The Offertory Prayer

The Offertory Solo

Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies

Gerhard Krapf

Christ, whose glory fills the skies,
Christ the true, the only Light,
Sun of Righteousness, arise,
Triumph o'er the shades of night;
Dayspring from on high, be near;
Daystar, 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,
Glad 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. Amen.

Charles Wesley, 1707-1788

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The Prayers of the People

The Silent Prayer

The Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer No. 895

**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 trespasses,
as we forgive those that trespass 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.**

The Hymn No. 2102

Swiftly Pass the Clouds of Glory

NETTLETON

1. Swiftly pass the clouds of glory,
heaven's voice the dazzling light;
Moses and Elijah vanish;
Christ alone commands the height!
Peter, James and John fall silent,
turning from the summit's rise
downward toward the shadowed valley
where their Lord has fixed His eyes.
2. Glimpsed and gone the revelation,
they shall gain and keep its truth,
not by building on the mountain
any shrine or sacred booth,
but by following the Savior
through the valley to the cross
and by testing faith's resilience
through betrayal, pain and loss.
3. Lord, transfigure our perception
with the purest light that shines
and recast our life's intention
to the shape of your designs,
till we seek no other glory
that what lies past Calv'ry's hill
and our living and our dying
and our rising by your will.

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The Benediction

The Postlude

We Have Come at Christ's Own Bidding

Tune – Rowland H. Prichard

We thank these persons who helped us in worship this morning.

Senior Pastor:	Rev. Matthew D. Bates
Minister to Young Adults:	Rev. Drew Willson
Director of Music:	Stanley M. Baker
Pianist:	Lee Covington
Singer:	Emily Downey
A/V Team:	Dan Corcoran
	Bob Hundley
	Chris Junker

Scripture

2 Corinthians 4:3-6

³ And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. ⁴ 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. ⁵ For we do not proclaim ourselves; we proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and ourselves as your slaves for Jesus' sake. ⁶ 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.

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