



TRANSFIGURATION SUNDAY

*First Presbyterian Church
Portsmouth, Ohio*

Pastor, Rev. Ronald N. Johnson,
Minister of Word and Sacrament
Deacon Stephanie Scaggs, Liturgist
Ms. Michele Imes, Director of Music
Dr. Phillip Roberts, Organist



TRANSFIGURATION SUNDAY

February 11, 2024

GATHERING TOGETHER AS COMMUNITY

WELCOME AND GREETING

Rev. Johnson

*** CALL TO WORSHIP** (*spoken responses*)

Deacon Stephanie Scaggs

L. Lord Jesus, on this day when you revealed your glory to your disciples;

P. Reveal your glory to us.

L. As we gaze on the splendor of your love;

P. Help us to love you and our neighbors around us.

L. Emmanuel, Everlasting God, Prince of Peace

P. We worship you today, with all our hearts and our minds.

ALL: Amen

***PRAYER FOR THE DAY**

***OPENING HYMN** #189 "O Wondrous Sight, O Vision Fair" **GTG**

CALL TO CONFESSION

Deacon Stephanie Scaggs

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*spoken in unison*) Deacon Stephanie Scaggs

God of patience and purpose, we confess we don't expect you to surprise us. We think we know what you expect of us and so we're reluctant to consider a new challenge or a new opportunity to serve you. Forgive us when we are set in our ways. Work in us by your Spirit to keep us open to new encounters with you in the world as it changes so you will always find us faithful. Amen.

(Silence for personal confession and meditation)

WORDS OF FORGIVENESS

Rev. Johnson

****THE 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, amen.

THE WORD PROCLAIMED

A PRAYER FOR UNDERSTANDING

Rev. Johnson

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Psalm 111 NRSVUE

Rev. Johnson

¹ Praise the Lord! I will give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart,
in the company of the upright, in the congregation.

² Great are the works of the Lord, studied by all who delight in them.

³ Full of honor and majesty is his work, and his righteousness endures forever. ⁴ He has gained renown by his wonderful deeds; the Lord is gracious and merciful. ⁵ He provides food for those who fear him; he is ever mindful of his covenant. ⁶ He has shown his people the power of his works, in giving them the heritage of the nations. ⁷ The works of his hands are faithful and just; all his precepts are trustworthy. ⁸ They are established forever and ever, to be performed with faithfulness and uprightness.

⁹ He sent redemption to his people; he has commanded his covenant forever. Holy and awesome is his name. ¹⁰ The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom; all those who practice it have a good understanding. His praise endures forever.

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

2 Corinthians 4: 3-6 NLT

³ If the Good News we preach is hidden behind a veil, it is hidden only from people who are perishing. ⁴ Satan, who is the god of this world, has blinded the minds of those who don't believe. They are unable to see the glorious light of the Good News. They don't understand this message about the glory of Christ, who is the exact likeness of God.

⁵ You see, we don't go around preaching about ourselves. We preach that Jesus Christ is Lord, and we ourselves are your servants for Jesus' sake. ⁶ For God, who said, "Let there be light in the darkness," has made this light shine in our hearts so we could know the glory of God that is seen in the face of Jesus Christ.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God!

THE MESSAGE Christ, The Best Picture of God We Will Ever Get

A CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

L. The pattern of faith and true life is clear enough: God gives,
P: and we receive.

L. God gives far more abundantly than we can ask or imagine,
P: and we receive.

L. God gives life and breath to the world, gives miracles of deliverance and newness,
P: and we receive.

L. God gives God's very self in Jesus,
P: and we receive.

L. People of God, this is the table where God intends for us to be well-fed. This is the table where the abundance of the whole creation and the angels surrounds us. This is the way Christ comes to renew his people. So come all of you who hunger and thirst for a deeper faith, a richer life, and a fairer world.

P: Christ has come. Christ will come again and again to feed us in the wilderness of life.

PRAYER

COMMUNION HYMN #252 "Day of Arising" **GTG**

L. Among friends, who were "be-wildered" (that is, in the wilderness), and gathered round a table, Jesus took bread and blessed it.

P. Blessed are you, Lord our God, King of the universe, who brings forth bread from the earth.

L. Then Christ broke the bread and gave it to his disciples. Through that act Christ teaches that: This loaf, this table, symbolizes a new relationship with God and with each other, sealed with Christ's body, given for you. Take, eat, remember and believe that God does provide a table in the presence of all our fears.

(Participants eat the bread together)

L. In the same way, Jesus took wine and blessed it.

P: Blessed are you, Lord our God, King of the universe, Creator of the fruit of the vine.

L. Then he poured the wine and gave it to his disciples. This cup then and now symbolizes a new relationship with God and with each other. It is sealed with Christ's blood, which is poured out and given for you.

Take, drink, remember and believe that God does provide a table in the presence of all our fears.

(Participants drink the cup together)

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (Apostle's Creed, trad., spoken in unison)

***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 Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,***

***suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, dead, and buried;****

the third day he rose from the dead;

he ascended into heaven,

and sitteth at 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 Spirit,

the holy catholic* church,

the communion of saints,

the forgiveness of sins,

***the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.***

(*church universal)

GIVING OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS TO THE LORD

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY MUSIC

Dr. Roberts

***The Doxology**

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

****PRAYER OF DEDICATION (spoken in unison)***

God of life and love, receive our gifts as tokens of our love. Bless them so they strengthen the love we offer neighbour and stranger alike in Jesus' name. May our lives shine with hope in these winter days, as we wait for life to stir in the earth and new life to stir within us through Christ our Lord. Amen.

*** CLOSING HYMN #192 "Shine, Jesus, Shine" GTG**

CALLED TO MISSION (spoken in unison)

Soli Deo Gloria

Rev. Johnson

(To God Alone be Glory)

God's story shaping ours.

***In Christ, one and many, coming by grace,
following in faith, serving with love,
in neighborhoods near and far.***

***The Word proclaimed, the work fulfilled,
the World transformed toward Zion here and coming.
To God alone be the glory!***

***SENDING SONG #545 "Lord, Bid Your Servant Go In Peace" GTG**

VERSE 1

Lord, bid your servant go in peace;
your word is now fulfilled.
These eyes have seen salvation's dawn,
this child so long foretold.

VERSE 2

This is the Savior of the world,
the Gentiles' promised light,
God's glory dwelling in our midst,
the joy of Israel.

***BENEDICTION**

Rev. Johnson

POSTLUDE (Please be seated for the postlude)

***THOSE WHO CAN STAND TO THEIR FEET, PLEASE STAND.**

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Calendar

Feb. 2-10: Pastor Away.

Feb. 4: FPC welcomes Rev. Bauer to the pulpit, 11A.

Feb. 7: MCL Meets, 4P, Conf. Rm.

Feb. 7: Student Loan Cmte. Meets, 5:30P, Hybrid-Zoom

Feb. 11: Communion Celebrated, 11A.

Feb. 14: Ash Wednesday Celebrated, FPC 5:30P.

Feb. 15: FPC Food Bank reopens, 12-2P.

Feb. 15: Pastor with Scioto Valley Presby., Church Professional Retreat

Feb. 15: Pastor Ron speaks at Enrichment Hour, BV

Feb. 18: Pastor preaching at Hillview Nursing Home, 3P.

Feb. 21: Board of Session Meets, 5:30 PM, Hybrid Mtg

Feb. 22: FPC Food Bank, 12-2P.

Feb. 22: Presbytery of Scioto Valley meets, 3:30P, Hybrid

Feb. 25: Annual Congregational Meeting, Part 1, 12:30P

Feb. 25: Fellowship Meal, 12:30P

*** The FPC Food Bank will reopen on Feb 15, 12P-2P
Officer Training, TBA**

**THE PRAYER LIST IS POSTED ON THE BULLETIN BOARD
IN THE EDUCATION ANNEX**

Pastor & Church Secretary's Office Hours for the Week

Sunday: Worship and office hours. Mondays:

Home office (worship planning, prep, and meetings)

Tuesday thru Thursday: 10 A - 4 P Fridays: Off

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*Altar
Flowers*

January's Altar Flowers are
given in honor of all loved
ones.

SERMON NOTES

SERMON TITLE

SCRIPTURE VERSE(S)

WHAT DID I HEAR THAT RAISED QUESTIONS?

HOW CAN I APPLY THIS TO MY LIFE?

MY HEART-FELT PRAYER TO GOD FOR THOSE IN MY LIFE AND MYSELF

