



# Order of Worship

Transfiguration Sunday

March 2, 2025

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## Call to worship (based on Psalm 99)

God reigns, let the people tremble! God reigns, let the earth shake!

**For the Lord our God is exalted over all people!**

God reigns, let the people tremble! God reigns, let the earth shake!

**For the Lord our God loves justice and works for righteousness!**

So come and proclaim at the holy mountain of the Lord:

**God reigns, let the people tremble! God reigns, let the earth shake!**

## Call to confession

On Transfiguration, on the holy mountain of God, we see Jesus as he truly is. But in confession we let Jesus see us as we truly are. We name our sins, our faults, and the things we've gotten wrong, and we do so in faith that Jesus wants to see us as we are. So let's tell the truth together.

## Prayer of confession

**Almighty God, you see us as we are and know our inmost thoughts. You know the ways we've fallen short. You know the work we've left undone, the mercy we've left ungiven, the love we've left unshared, the peace we've left unmade. You know the arrogance, pride and violence that we've chosen instead of your path of forgiveness and reconciliation. You know who we are. Help us to see who we might be. Forgive us, and transform us, that we might become who you imagine us to become, in your sight, and by your mercy. Amen.**

## Assurance of pardon

Friends, the Lord sees you and knows you. The Lord sees you and loves you. The Lord sees you and calls you. Know that you are forgiven, and be at peace.

## Prayer for illumination

Almighty God, in your light may we see light, in your truth may we see truth and in your Holy Word may we be called into holy work.





## Scripture readings

### Sermon

#### Affirmation of faith (adapted from A Brief Statement of Faith)

We trust in God the Holy Spirit,  
everywhere the giver and renewer of life,  
who inspired the prophets and apostles,  
rules our faith and life in Christ through Scripture,  
engages us through the Word proclaimed,  
claims us in the waters of baptism,  
feeds us with the bread of life and the cup of salvation,  
and calls children of God everywhere to all ministries of the church.

In a broken and fearful world  
the Spirit gives us courage to pray without ceasing,  
to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior,  
to unmask idolatries in Church and culture,  
to hear the voices of peoples long silenced,  
and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace.

In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit,  
we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks and to live holy and joyful  
lives,  
even as we watch for God's new heaven and new earth.

#### Call for the offering

The Lord our God is exalted over all people. All that we have, and all that we are, belong to God. Let us therefore give back to God what God has given to us, using our gifts of tithes and offerings.

#### Prayer of dedication

Living Christ, we offer these humble gifts as tokens of our thanks, and as signs of our hope in the world you are creating. In your hands and with our hands may these gifts be transformed: into bread for the hungry, comfort for the weak, shelter for the lost and peace for the world. Amen.

#### Prayers of the people and the Lord's Prayer

As we gather here on the mountaintop this morning, we join Peter's petition: that we might linger here just a moment in the presence of our living Savior, bringing him the cares and worries of our hearts. In this threshold time we pray: Lord Jesus, living Jesus, transfigured Jesus, be with us. Stay with us. Remain with us.

God of Transfiguration, **hear our prayers.**

Living Jesus, we pray with such rich thanksgiving for the gift of this worship and of this morning. Just as you showed yourself in fullness to those full disciples, we thank you for the ways in which you continue to reveal yourself to us: in the early signs of new spring life, in the familiar faces of our worshipping family, in the quiet whisper of a new day. We thank you, God, for the small ways in which you show us who you are, and how you





are, and we pray that your signs of life would keep their hold on us even in the valley.

God of Transfiguration, **hear our prayers.**

Living Jesus, in the light of Transfiguration we also see the world as it is — and as it might be. And so we pray your love and grace on all those places still longing for hope. We pray your light on those living in the midst of violence and fear. We pray your light on those living in the midst of unrest and terror. We pray your light on those living too long in hospital room and hospice corridors. We pray that you would stay by the side of all those who need you even in the long shadow of the valley of death.

God of Transfiguration, **hear our prayers.**

Living Jesus, just as you sent those early disciples back down the mountain, we pray that you would send us now back into the world as renewed and restored servants of your calling. Where there is need of charity: send us. Where there is need of hopefulness: send us. Where there is need of mercy: send us. Grant us the wisdom and courage to follow where you lead and to go where you call. Help us not simply rest on the mountaintop but find you again in the valley, for the love of the world.

God of our salvation, **hear our prayers.**

We offer these prayers to you in one voice as one gathered children of God, and in one voice we pray the prayer you first taught us to pray, saying: **“Our Father ...”**

### **Charge and benediction**

The mountaintop is for a moment. The world waits. The service begins now.

So, go into the world with courage. Love God and love one another with abandon. Run from this place into the arms of the Savior who waits for you. And in his arms, and in the grace of God, and the Fellowship of the Holy Spirit, may you always be upheld and uplifted, now and forever. Amen.

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Liturgy written by Matt Gaventa  
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