



West River United Church

'... seeking, sharing, celebrating abundant life in Christ'



Rev. Barbara J. Cairns
Andrea Rogers Family & Youth Coordinator
Lay Reader: Rick Burger
and all members of West River United Church
Transfiguration Sunday
February 14, 2021

PRE- SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENTS

WELCOME*

ONE: Share signs of light and love, for in those signs we experience the peace of Christ. *(Please share the peace of Christ with a friendly wave)*

♪ This Is the Day – MV 122

**This is the day that God has made
we will rejoice and be glad (X2)
Singing hallelu, singing hallelu, singing hallelu!
We will rejoice and be glad! (X2)**

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE (IN UNISON)

ALL: As we light the Christ Candle, may the brightness of God shine around us, within us, and through us. *(The Christ candle is lit.)*

♪ Christ Be Our Light

**Christ, be our light!
Shine in our hearts.
Shine through the darkness.
Christ, be our light!
Shine in your church gathered today.**

CALL TO WORSHIP** *please stand as you are able*

ALL: We come into this place of worship in search of light to guide our way. We come because we have seen the light from afar and desire to come closer. We come to journey in joy with others walking in the light that Christ brought into our world. Let us worship God.

♪ **All Who Are Thirsty – MV 4**

**All who are thirsty,
all who are weak,
come to the fountain.
Dip your heart in the stream of life.
Let the pain and the sorrow
be washed away
in the waves of God's mercy
as deep cries out to deep.
We sing Come, Lord Jesus, come.
Come, Lord Jesus, come.**

PRAYER OF APPROACH AND THE LORD'S PRAYER *** *(in unison)*

ALL: God of grace and glory, you call to the whole earth from east to west, from north to south. You gather your faithful people to you, those who have made a covenant with you. Fill us with your light which guides our paths. Touch our lives with mystery and hope that we may be made over in the image of your son, Jesus Christ. As we share his ministry, may we share your blessing. Amen.

Together we pray the words that Christ taught us saying:

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed by 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
who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,**

**but deliver us from evil;
for thine is the kingdom,
the power, and the glory
for ever and ever. Amen.**

PRESENTATION OF OURSELVES AND OUR GIFTS TO GOD

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING*

ONE: Friends, you are invited to give deeply of yourselves. Let us join our offerings with those already given through PAR, for God's work in God's world. Amen.

♪ **Lord Prepare Me – MV 18** *please stand as you are able*

**Lord, prepare me to be a sanctuary,
pure and holy tried and true –
with thanksgiving, I'll be a living
sanctuary for you. (repeat)**

OFFERTORY PRAYER (*in unison*)

**ALL: God of light and love shine through the gifts we bring before you now.
Speak through our hearts and our actions. Bless our gifts, our offerings,
and our very lives, so that we may bless others with your presence.
Amen.**

MINUTES FOR MISSION

TIME FOR ALL AGES

♪ **Draw the Circle Wide – MV 145**

**Draw the circle wide.
Draw it wider still.
Let this be our song,
no one stands alone,
standing side by side,
draw the circle wide.**

**God the still-point of the circle,
'round whom all creation turns;**

**nothing lost, but held forever,
in God's gracious arms. (R)**

**Let our hearts touch far horizons,
so encompass great and small;
let our loving know no borders,
faithful to God's call. (R)**

**Let the dreams we dream be larger,
than we've ever dreamed before;
let the dream of Christ be in us,
open every door. (R)**

PRAYER OF CONFESSION *** *(in unison)*

**ALL: Shine upon us with your grace, so that we might see what frightens us
and face what threatens us. Flow through us with your mercy, so that
we might sense your presence, even when we have run away, and that
we may know your love, even when we feel most unlovable. Abide in
us with your love, for your love claims us and makes us whole. Amen.**

WORDS OF ASSURANCE *

**ONE: Even in the darkest of times, the light of God is shining. The light of
Christ's love and mercy are shining now, brightening our lives with mercy
and grace.**

ALL: Thanks be to God. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READINGS

PSALM 95:1-7 *(New Revised Standard)*

**O come, let us sing to the Lord; let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our
salvation! Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful
noise to him with songs of praise! For the Lord is a great God, and a great King
above all gods. In his hand are the depths of the earth; the heights of the
mountains are his also. The sea is his, for he made it, and the dry land, which
his hands have formed. O come, let us worship and bow down, let us kneel
before the Lord, our Maker! For he is our God, and we are the people of his
pasture, and sheep of his hand. O that today you would listen to his voice!**

MARK 9:2-10 (*New Revised Standard*)

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 anymore, 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. So they kept the matter to themselves, questioning what this rising from the dead could mean.

MINISTRY OF MUSIC – JEANNIE CAMPBELL AND CHARLES REID

SERMON – Rev. Barbara J. Cairns

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

HYMN VU 559 – 'Come O Fount of Every Blessing'

**Come, O Fount of every blessing,
tune my heart to sing your grace;
streams of mercy, never ceasing
call for songs of endless praise.
Teach me some melodious sonnet,
sung by flaming tongues above.
Praise the mount; I'm fixed upon it,
mount of God's unfailing love.**

**Here I pause in my sojourning,
giving thanks for having come,
come to trust, at every turning,
God will lead me safely home.**

Jesus sought me when a stranger,
wandering from the fold of God,
came to rescue me from danger,
precious presence, precious blood.

O, to grace how great a debtor
daily I am drawn anew!
Let that grace now like a fetter,
bind my wandering heart to you.
Prone to wander, I can feel it,
wander from the love I've known:
here's my heart, O take and seal it,
seal it for your very own.

BENEDICTION ****

ONE: May the brightness of God light our way.
May the brightness of Christ shine within us.
May the brightness of God's spirit flow through us.

♪ Go Now In Peace

Go now in peace.
Never be afraid.
God will go with you
each hour of ev'ry day.
Go now in faith,
steadfast, strong and true.
Know God will guide you
in all you do.
Go now in love,
and show you believe.
Reach out to others
so all the world can see.
God will be there
watching from above.
Go now in peace,
in faith, and in love.
Amen. Amen. Amen.

POSTLUDE

* *Abingdon Worship Annual, 2021.*

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