

**Transfiguration of the Lord
March 2, 2025**

Gathering
God invites us to enter His presence

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

Preparation for Worship (*Time for Silent Preparation*)

! **Call to Worship** (*Responsively*)

Susan Obenschain

Let us worship the eternal God,
the source of love and life, who creates us.
Let us worship Jesus Christ, the risen one, who lives among us.
Let us worship the Spirit, the holy fire, who renews us.
**To the one true God be praise in all times and places,
through the grace of Jesus Christ.**

! **Invocation** (*Responsively*)

Susan Obenschain

Jesus Christ, you come to transfigure us
and renew us in the image of God:
shine in our darkness.
Jesus Christ, light of our hearts, you know our thirst:
lead us to the wellspring of your gospel.
Jesus Christ, light of the world, you shine in every human being:
enable us to discern your presence in each person.
Jesus Christ, friend of the poor:
open in us the gates of simplicity so that we can welcome you.
Jesus Christ, gentle and humble of heart:
renew in us the spirit of childhood.
Jesus Christ, you send your church to prepare your path in the world:
open for all people the gates of your kingdom. Amen.

! **Opening Hymn 8**

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

Confessing
God invites us to be honest with Him

Call to Confession

Susan Obenschain

When we gather to praise God, we remember that we are people
who have preferred our wills to his. Accepting his power to become new
persons in Christ, let us confess our sin before God and one another.

Prayer of Confession (*Responsively*)

Susan Obenschain

God of transfiguration, you meet us in the ordinary as well as the extraordinary moments of life. We seek you in the valleys and on the mountaintops. Yet we admit that too often our eyes are blind to your presence, too often our ears are deaf to your call. When you reach out to us through the cries of the hungry and homeless, too often our hearts shrink from your touch. Forgive us, we pray, and set us free to love and serve. **Amen.**

Time for Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon

Susan Obenschain

Leader: This is the Promise of the Lord

*All: **Thanks be to God!***

 **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.
A-men, A-men.*

 **Passing of the Peace**

Leader: The Peace of the Lord be with You

*All: **And also with you***

Offering

Thankful of the gifts God has given us, we offer ourselves to Him

Invitation As God's dear children, then, take him as your pattern,
and follow Christ by loving as he loved you, giving
himself up for us as an offering and a sweet-smelling
sacrifice to God.

—Ephesians 5:1-2, NJB

Offering

Offertory *Come Unto Jesus*
Greg Maurer (Guitar/Vocals)

 **Doxology**

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host;
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. A-men.*

 **Prayer of Dedication** (*Responsively*)

Almighty God, you have given us everything.
Not only did you create us, but you provide for our every need.
We give thanks to you, Lord, for you are good.

Your love endures forever.

When we turned away from you, you reached down to us.
You lifted us up and freed us through the gift of your Son.
We give thanks to you, Lord, for you are good.

Your love endures forever.

You are with us always. You watch over our coming and our going.
Your Holy Spirit guides us and leads us every step of our lives.
We give thanks to you, Lord, for you are good.

Your love endures forever.

For your abundant grace we give you thanks.
Gratefully we offer the gifts you first gave us.
We give thanks to you, Lord, for you are good.

Your love endures forever.

Use our time, our talents, and our tithes for your glory.
May it bless others with hope, peace, and joy. **Amen.**

 **Praise Song**

He Will Hold Me Fast

Verse 1

*When I fear my faith will fail,
Christ will hold me fast.
When the tempter would prevail,
He will hold me fast.
I could never keep my hold
Through life's fearful path;
For my love is often cold
He must hold me fast.*

Chorus

*He will hold me fast,
He will hold me fast;
For my Savior loves me so,
He will hold me fast.*

Verse 2

*Those He saves are His delight,
Christ will hold me fast;
Precious in His holy sight,
He will hold me fast.
He'll not let my soul be lost;
His Promises shall last;
Bought by Him at such a cost,
He will hold me fast.*

Chorus

Verse 3

*For my life He bled and died,
Christ will hold me fast;
Justice has been satisfied;
He will hold me fast.
Raised with Him to endless life,
He will hold me fast
'Till our faith is turned to sight,
When He comes at last!*

Chorus (2 x)

Proclaiming
God speaks to us through His Word

Scripture Reading

John 6:1-15

6 After this, Jesus crossed the Sea of Galilee (or Tiberias). ²A huge crowd was following him because they saw the signs that he was performing by healing the sick. ³Jesus went up a mountain and sat down there with his disciples.

⁴Now the Passover, a Jewish festival, was near. ⁵So when Jesus looked up and noticed a huge crowd coming toward him, he asked Philip, "Where will we buy bread so that these people can eat?" ⁶He asked this to test him, for he himself knew what he was going to do.

⁷Philip answered him, "Two hundred denarii worth of bread wouldn't be enough for each of them to have a little."

⁸One of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, said to him, ⁹"There's a boy here who has five barley loaves and two fish—but what are they for so many?"

¹⁰Jesus said, "Have the people sit down."

There was plenty of grass in that place; so they sat down. The men numbered about five thousand. ¹¹Then Jesus took the loaves, and after giving thanks he distributed them to those who were seated—so also with the fish, as much as they wanted.

¹²When they were full, he told his disciples, "Collect the leftovers so that nothing is wasted." ¹³So they collected them and filled twelve baskets with the pieces from the five barley loaves that were left over by those who had eaten.

¹⁴When the people saw the sign he had done, they said, "This truly is the Prophet who is to come into the world."

¹⁵Therefore, when Jesus realized that they were about to come and take him by force to make him king, he withdrew again to the mountain by himself.

Sermon

"When the People Saw the Sign"
Rev. Tim Latham

 Hymn of Response 51

Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

Sacrament of Communion

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Lift up your hearts!

People: We lift them up to the Lord.

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God!

People: It is right to give Him thanks and praise!


Invitation to the Table

Leader: For as often as you eat this bread and drink this cup, you
proclaim the Lord's death until He comes Again!

**People: Christ has died. Christ has risen. Christ will come
again!**

Responding

We respond to God's Word

 **Profession of Faith** *(In Unison) Apostle's 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 Spirit,
Born of the Virgin Mary,
Suffered under Pontius Pilate,
Was crucified, died, and buried;
He descended into hell;
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.**

Commissioning

God sends us out into the world as His witnesses

 **Commission Song**

The Blessing

Verse (2 times)

The Lord bless you and keep you,

make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you.

The Lord turn His face toward you and give you peace.

Chorus (2 times)

Amen, amen, amen. Amen, amen, amen.

Bridge

*May His favor be upon you and a thousand generations
and your family and your children and their children
and their children.*

*May His presence go before you and behind you and beside you,
All around you and within you. He is with you, he is with you.*

*In the morning, in the evening, in your coming and your going,
In your weeping and rejoicing, He is for you, He is with you.*

Verse

Chorus

 **Benediction & Blessing**

 **Postlude**