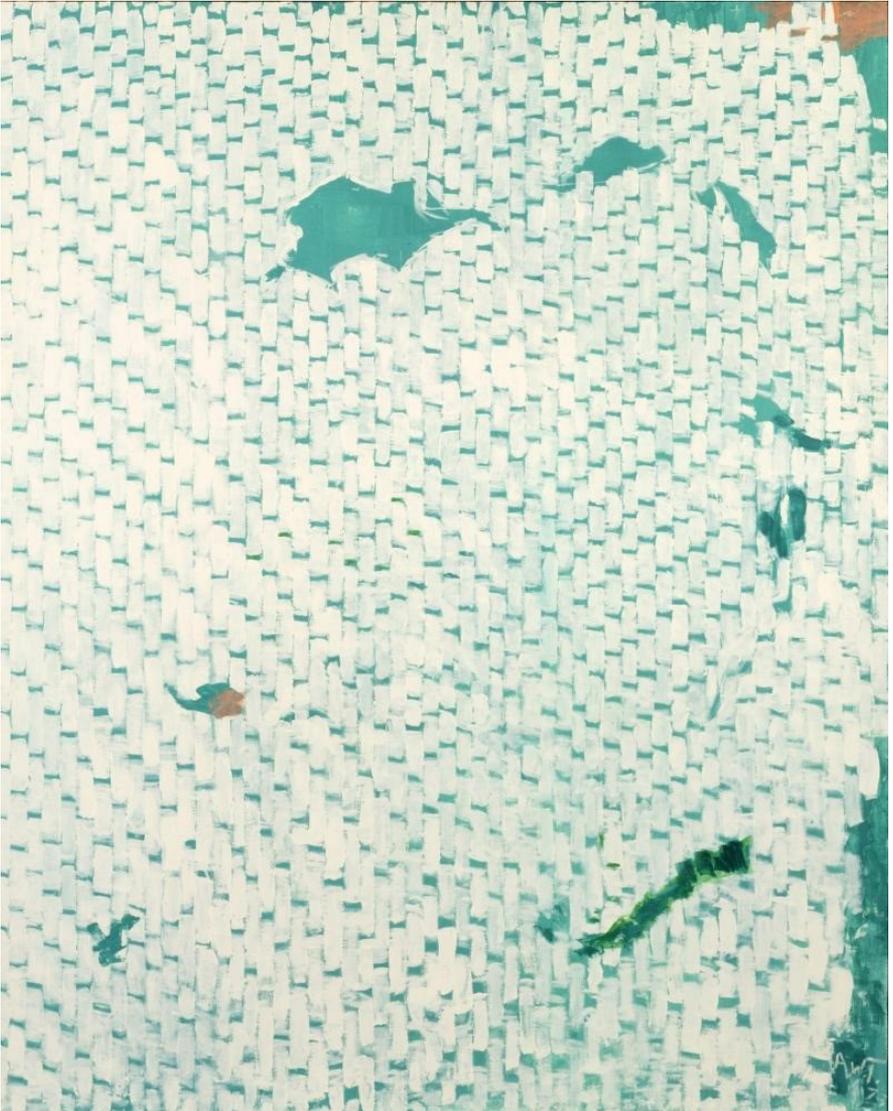




PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
of MADISON



February 15, 2026

Transfiguration of the Lord

ORDER of WORSHIP

THE GATHERING OF GOD'S PEOPLE

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

*Call to Worship

Leader: Though finite human minds cannot fathom God's fullness,

People: **God gives us glimpses of glory every day, in the night sky's depths and in the simplest flower,**

Leader: in shared meals, shared stories, and shared struggles. In the face of every person made in God's image,

People: **God's beauty glows like sunlight behind clouds.**

Leader: We share God's sacred longing to be known, to be truly seen and loved for all we are.

People: **When we dare to share ourselves with one another, when we work to understand a friend or stranger, we come closer to catch a glimpse of God's presence.**

Leader: Let us worship God together.

(Music for the hymns is in the back of the bulletin.)

*Opening Hymn

Jesus, Take Us to the Mountain

(v1, v2, v3, v5)

Prayer of Confession

Loving God, we can become overwhelmed. We see the magnitude of the work before us and we freeze in fear. We worry that we will fail. We become scared that we won't be able to do enough to make a difference. Release us from our fear and fill us with your Spirit, so that we might reflect your light and share your love, for the sake of Jesus, our Savior.

(Silent confession)

Assurance of Pardon

Leader: Friends, believe the good news!

People: **In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.**

Congregational Response #582

Glory to God

*Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me,
And to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me,
And to the Spirit, whose love has set me free,
As it was in the beginning,
Is now and ever shall be. Amen.*

***Passing of the Peace**

Leader: May the peace of Christ be with you all.

People: **And also with you.**

(You may pass the peace to one another.)

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

Children's Message

Prayer for Illumination

Wise God, through your words and by your Spirit, reveal your eternal love to us. Show us how to live in your ways until the dawning of the coming day and the rising of the morning star. Amen.

An asterisk(*) indicates that those who are able are invited to stand. Bold letters denote that we say the words in unison. Italic fonts direct us to sing.

First Scripture Reading

Exodus 24:12–18

The Lord said to Moses, “Come up to me on the mountain and wait there; I will give you the tablets of stone, with the law and the commandment, which I have written for their instruction.” So Moses set out with his assistant Joshua, and Moses went up onto the mountain of God. To the elders he had said, “Wait here for us, until we come back to you. Look, Aaron and Hur are with you; whoever has a dispute may go to them.”

Then Moses went up on the mountain, and the cloud covered the mountain. The glory of the Lord settled on Mount Sinai, and the cloud covered it for six days; on the seventh day he called to Moses out of the cloud. Now the appearance of the glory of the Lord was like a devouring fire on the top of the mountain in the sight of the Israelites. Moses entered the cloud and went up on the mountain. Moses was on the mountain for forty days and forty nights.

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Second Scripture Reading

Matthew 17:1–9

Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became bright as light. Suddenly there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him. Then Peter said to Jesus, “Lord, it is good for us to be here; if you wish, I will set up three tents here, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.” While he was still speaking, suddenly a bright cloud overshadowed them, and a voice from the cloud said, “This is my Son, the Beloved; with him I am well pleased; listen to him!” When the disciples heard this, they fell to the ground and were overcome by fear. But Jesus came and touched them, saying, “Get up and do not be afraid.” And when they raised their eyes, they saw no one except Jesus himself alone.

As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus ordered them, “Tell no one about the vision until after the Son of Man has been raised from the dead.”

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

Do Not Be Afraid

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

*Affirmation of Faith

from the Confession of 1967

God's sovereign love is a mystery
beyond the reach of the human mind.
Human thought ascribes to God
superlatives of power, wisdom, and goodness.
But God reveals divine love in Jesus Christ
by showing power in the form of a servant,
wisdom in the folly of the cross,
and goodness in receiving
sinful men and women.
The power of God's love in Christ
to transform the world
discloses that the Redeemer
is the Lord and Creator
who made all things
to serve the purpose of God's love.

The Gifts of Our Tithes and Offering

Invitation to Offering

Offertory

I Will Follow (praise band)

*Doxology

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Christ all people here below;
Alleluia, Alleluia!
Praise Holy Spirit evermore;
Praise Triune God whom we adore.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!
Amen!*

*Prayer of Dedication and Thanksgiving

Prayers of the People
Joys and Concerns

The Lord's Prayer

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

GOING FORTH TO LOVE AND SERVE THE LORD

***Closing Hymn**

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

***Benediction**

***Postlude**

*As our time of worship comes to an end, our time of service begins.
We are the church, sent out in Jesus' name,
to be Christ's body in the world.*

WORSHIP LEADER

Ethan Gorsak

ANNOUNCEMENTS

2026 ANNUAL PER CAPITA CONTRIBUTION

What is Per Capita?

The main purpose of the Presbytery and Synod is to help congregations and the Church as a whole in their work of mission, ministry and transformation of the world. Highlands Presbytery is a community of congregations in Morris, Somerset, Hunterdon, Warren, Sussex and Passaic counties, and the Synod of the Northeast includes all of New England, New York, and New Jersey. Per Capita is the financial expression of our mutual support for each congregation's work in transforming the world. Per Capita is assessed based on the membership of each church; for 2026 the amount is \$44 per member. We ask all who are able to contribute this amount, in addition to any other giving. If paying by check, please note "Per Capita" on the memo line. If paying online, select "Give to Per Capita Payment". We thank you for your generosity.

TACKLE HUNGER: SOUPER BOWL OF CARING - FEBRUARY 8 - 22

Hunger and food insecurity in our communities continue to rise, so let's be the team that tackles this problem and offers hope to our neighbors! On February 8, Super Bowl Sunday, our youth will seek your \$\$\$ donations so we can go grocery shopping for delicious and nutritious food. And, our Mission Committee will MATCH the total \$\$\$ we collect! Please support us as it fits your budget, and stay tuned for the organization who will receive our contribution. Thank you!

SOUND HEALING - FEBRUARY 24 & MARCH 24

Give yourself the best gift - a whole hour of peace and rest just for you. Join us in the sanctuary on February 24 and March 24 (Tuesdays) from 7-8 pm as Nichole Maldonado-Gorsak leads us through gentle stretching suitable for all levels and then a soothing, restful sound bath. Bring a non-perishable food donation for the Interfaith Food Pantry. For more information, write Kathleen Underwood at kathleenunderwood@verizon.net.

LENTEN BIBLE STUDY - BEGINNING ON FEBRUARY 23

Please join us in the Parlor for a Bible Study on Mondays at 6:30 pm, beginning on February 23.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WOULD YOU LIKE TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE BY DONATING YOUR SPARE CHANGE TO HELP FIGHT FOOD INSECURITY?

The Mission Team has created an easy way for you to put those extra pennies, nickels, and dimes to good use. Every Sunday, you'll find a container where you can drop off your coins. Quarters designated for RAMP should continue to go in the tube and will be matched by an amount from the mission budget. All coins collected (except quarters) will be counted at the CoinStar machine at Stop and Shop, and every cent will go directly to Feeding America, which is a nationwide network of 200 food banks and 60,000 food pantries and programs, providing food and support to people facing hunger. According to their website, every dollar donated helps provide at least 10 meals. Families can get involved by having children sort coins into two piles—quarters for RAMP and all other change for Feeding America.

INTERFAITH FOOD PANTRY UPDATE

Thanks to everyone who helped us reach 1,503 pounds of food donated to the pantry in 2025. From their most recent quarterly thank-you letter: "Together we have accomplished a great deal over the course of 2025. We accommodated a record number – more than 42,000 visits to our food pantries and our network partners. We distributed 2.4 million pounds of food. Additionally, we helped people improve their overall health with nutrition education, and helped our guests with referrals to wrap-around services to achieve greater levels of self-sufficiency." Thanks also to Cooky Dowling, Becky Moody, Peter Teshima, and Robin Vlamis for handling the weekly deliveries to the pantry, and to Bill Wagner for delivering the White Offering after Christmas Eve. Visit mcifp.org for more information, including lists of most-needed items.

OTHER MISSION UPDATES

Thanks for generous donations to both the Madison Eagle Christmas Fund and the Christmas Joy Offering. The total amounts collected were \$700 for the MECF and \$1,320 for Christmas Joy.

PC(USA) Special Offerings are changing in 2026 - watch for further details. The next one is One Great Hour of Sharing, which we will receive on both Palm Sunday and Easter.

PRAYER LIST

During the week, each one of us can make it a part of our daily spiritual practice to pray. You are invited to participate, as you are able, offering prayer in light of God's healing love.

If you have an update for the prayer list, please email Rev. Carol Howard at carolhoward@pcmadison.org or call the church office at 973-377-1600. Thank you for helping us maintain a more current prayer list.

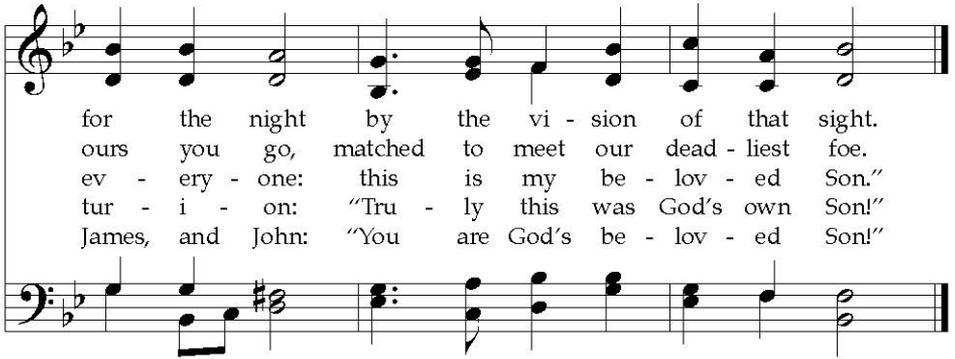
- A dear friend concerned about job security
- Jordan for healing and relief from pain
- Wisdom and caring for a friend making a big decision
- Connie, an elderly woman recently admitted to the hospital
- Loretta for health and wellness through her weight loss journey
- Greg, a missionary in Uganda but back in North Carolina for treatment and rehabilitation
- Jackie and her children, as they grieve their husband and father
- Mike for healing and return to good health
- Joe for healing and return to good health
- Doug, a friend of the Burnet family, who was recently diagnosed with a serious illness
- Unity and peace in our country
- Anonymous
- Phil and Nancy as they manage her very serious health issues
- Thomas, as he recovers following hospitalization
- Immigrants
- Kathleen, caregiver for her parents
- Joe and his family for comfort and support during a very stressful time
- Susan, sister of Bob Landrigan, as she battles Parkinson's disease
- John, who is in a clinical study for treatment of a rare disease, that he received the treatment (not the placebo), and his wife and caregiver, Cathy

193 Jesus, Take Us to the Mountain

1 Je - sus, take us to the moun-tain, where, with Pe - ter,
 2 What do you want us to see there, that your close com -
 3 What do you want us to hear there, that your dear dis -
 4 Take us to that oth - er moun-tain where we see you
 5 We who have be - held your glo - ry, ris - en and as -

James, and John, we are daz - zled by your glo - ry,
 pan - ions saw? Your di - vin - i - ty re - vealed there
 ci - ples heard? Once a - gain the voice from heav - en
 glo - ri - fied, where you shout - ed "It is fin - ished!"
 cend - ed Lord, can - not help but tell the sto - ry,

light as blind - ing as the sun. There pre - pare us
 fills us with the self - same awe. Clothed in flesh like
 says of the In - car - nate Word, "Lis - ten, lis - ten,
 where for all the world you died. Hear the stunned cen -
 all that we have seen and heard; say with Pe - ter,



for the night by the vi - sion of that sight.
ours you go, matched to meet our dead - liest foe.
ev - ery - one: this is my be - lov - ed Son."
tur - i - on: "Tru - ly this was God's own Son!"
James, and John: "You are God's be - lov - ed Son!"

582

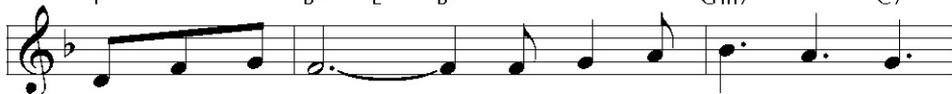
Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me

Capo 3: (G) (D) (G) (D) (G) (D) (Em) (D)
B \flat F B \flat F B \flat F Gm F



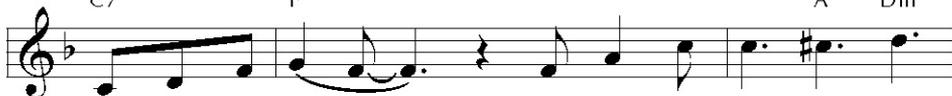
1 Glo - ry to God, whose good - ness shines on me,
2 World with - out end, with - out end. A - men.

(D) (G) (C) (G) (Em7) (A7)
F B \flat E \flat B \flat Gm7 C7



and to the Son, whose grace has par - doned me,
World with - out end, with - out end. A - men.

(A7) (D) (F#) (Bm)
C7 F A Dm



and to the Spir - it, whose love has set me free.
World with - out end, with - out end. A - men.

(Bm7) (D) (Bdim7) (Em7) (Dm)(A7) (D)
Dm7 F Ddim7 Gm7 Fm C7 F



As it was in the be - gin - ning, is now and ev - er shall be. A - men.

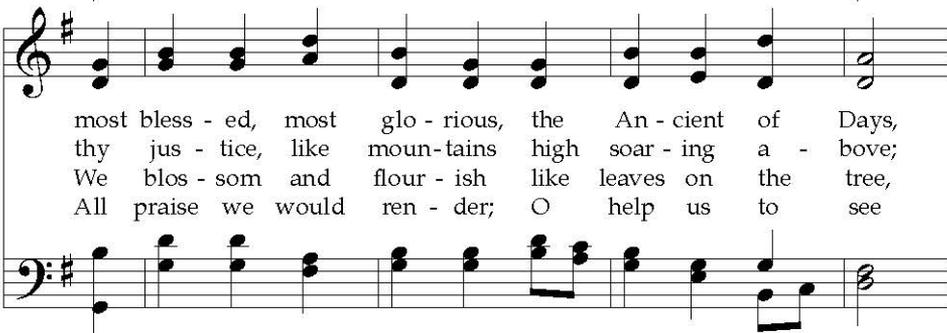
Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise 12



1 Im - mor - tal, in - vis - i - ble, God on - ly wise,
 2 Un - rest - ing, un - hast - ing, and si - lent as light,
 3 To all, life thou giv - est, to both great and small.
 4 Thou reign - est in glo - ry; thou dwell - est in light.



in light in - ac - ces - si - ble hid from our eyes,
 nor want - ing, nor wast - ing, thou rul - est in might:
 In all life thou liv - est, the true life of all.
 Thine an - gels a - dore thee, all veil - ing their sight.



most bless - ed, most glo - rious, the An - cient of Days,
 thy jus - tice, like moun - tains high soar - ing a - bove;
 We blos - som and flour - ish like leaves on the tree,
 All praise we would ren - der; O help us to see



al - might - y, vic - to - rious, thy great name we praise.
 thy clouds, which are foun - tains of good - ness and love.
 then with - er and per - ish; but naught chang - eth thee.
 'tis on - ly the splen - dor of light hid - eth thee!

NOTES

CREDITS

Cover Art: “Snow Reflections on Pond ” by Alma Thomas

WELCOMING ALL
AS A LOVING COMMUNITY
CENTERED IN CHRIST,
GROWING IN FAITH,
SERVING IN JOY, AND
LIVING IN GRATITUDE

STAFF

Reverend Carol Howard
Pastor

Christine Antico
Bookkeeper

Eileen Koppi
Administrative Assistant

Michael Callahan
Student Ministries & Outreach

Anna D'Achille
Director of Music

WORSHIP
Sunday Service 10:15 am

SESSION

Jim Burnet
Becky Moody, Clerk

Stephanie Haedrich
Giorgios Vlamis

The Presbyterian Church of Madison is part of the PC(USA) Denomination
pcusa.org



ThePresbyterianChurchofMadison

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