

Morning Worship
February 22, 2009
Transfiguration of the Lord Sunday

Coming Together in Christ

10:55 AM MEDITATION (Please pause in quiet preparation for worship.)

11:00 AM CHIMING OF THE HOUR

PRELUDE: JOYBELLS

He Has Made Me Glad

Leona Van Brethorst,

Arr. Peggy Bettcher

Amazing Grace

Early American Melody

Arr. Sandra Tucker

INTROIT

Be Thou My Vision

Karl Zinsmeister

JoyBells

Entering God's Presence

THE CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm 50: 3a, 4

Leader: Our God comes and does not keep silence,

People: He calls to the heavens above and to the earth, that he may judge his people.

* HYMN OF PRAISE #339

Be Thou My Vision

"Slane"

THE PRAYER OF APPROACH

SILENCE

AMEN

PRAYER OF CONFESSION: (together)

Lord God, we would not dare to come before you as of right. You are pure holiness, pure love, pure good. We are self-willed creatures, and we cannot even live within the light that you have held out to us. But since, in Christ, you have declared your love and mercy to the world, we come in full assurance of the Faith, and ask your pardon for the failings of this past week. We recall the wasted opportunities...the good intentions that were not fulfilled...our insensitive speech...our lack of discipline and dedication...and we repent of any hurt that we have caused, and all the help that we have withheld.

KYRIE ELEISON (Congregation & Choir) #574, The Hymnal
**Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us.
Lord, have mercy upon us.**

THE DECLARATION OF PARDON Gail Plitnik

* THE RESPONSE IN PRAISE #579, The Hymnal
**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.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE ANTHEM *Make A Joyful Noise to the Lord* Maureen I. Sindlinger
The Children's Choir

Make a joyful noise to the Lord, Break forth in songs of praise,
With trumpet and sound of horn make a joyful noise to the Lord.
Let the seas roar and the floods clap their hands,
Let the hills sing together for joy.
Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth sings His praise!

Hearing God's Word

TIME FOR CHILDREN

* HYMN OF PREPARATION #324 *Open My Eyes That I May See* "Open My Eyes"

FIRST LESSON: Exodus 20:1-18 Pew Bible p. 63-64

SECOND LESSON: II Corinthians 3:4-18 Pew Bible p. 169

THE ANTHEM *E'en So, Lord Jesus, Quickly Come* Paul Manz

Peace be to you and grace from Him who freed us from our sins,
Who loved us all and shed His blood that we might saved be.
Sing Holy, Holy to our Lord, the Lord, Almighty God,
Who was and is and is to come; Sing Holy, Holy, Lord!
Rejoice in heaven, all ye that dwell therein,
Rejoice on earth, ye saints below,
For Christ is coming, Is coming soon!
E'en so, Lord Jesus quickly come and night shall be no more;
They need no light, nor lamp, nor sun, For Christ will be their All!

THE SERMON "Good Enough" Elder Gail Plitnik

Our Response to God's Love

* THE AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

The liberty which Christ hath purchased for believers under the gospel consists in their freedom from the guilt of sin, the condemning wrath of God, the curse of the moral law, and in their being delivered from the sting of death, the victory of the grave, and everlasting damnation. Also in their free access to God, and their yielding obedience unto him, not out of slavish fear, but a childlike love and a willing mind.

God alone is the Lord of the conscience, and hath left it free from the doctrines and commandments of men which are in anything contrary to his Word, or beside it in matters of faith or worship. So that to believe such doctrines, or to obey such commandments out of conscience is to betray true liberty and conscience; and the requiring of an implicit faith, and an absolute and blind obedience, is to destroy liberty of conscience, and reason also.

—Extracts from 6.108 and 6.109, Westminster Confession of Faith (1647)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

WORSHIPPING THE LORD THROUGH OUR GIFTS AND TITHES

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

O Taste and See

Ralph Vaughan Williams

O taste and see how gracious the Lord is: Blest is the man that trusteth in him.

* THE DOXOLOGY

#592, The Hymnal

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

* OFFERTORY PRAYER

* THE HYMN OF PARTING #280 *Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound* "Amazing Grace"

* SHARING CHRIST'S PEACE

Leader: The peace of our Lord, Jesus Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

(Please greet one another in the peace of Christ.)

* SUNG BENEDICTION

Blest Be the Tie That Binds

Dennis

(Please join hands as we sing the Benediction)

**Blest be the tie that binds Our hearts in Christian love:
The fellowship of kindred minds Is like to that above.**

Going Forth in God's Love

* THE POSTLUDE

"Amazing Grace"

* Those who wish to do so are invited to stand

Music Notes

The Anthem this morning, "E'en So, Lord Jesus, Quickly Come," is an adaptation of Revelation 22 by Paul Manz, and ranked by many as his most known and famous choral work. "E'en So" has been performed at the Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols at King's College, Cambridge, though its broadcast by the neighboring Choir of St. John's College, Cambridge, in its Advent Carol Service precipitated its popularity. This lush motet contains close parallel harmonies and culminates in a high B flat in the middle section. Paul Manz. (born May 10, 1919), is an American composer for choir and organ. His most famous organ works are his volumes of neo-Baroque chorale preludes and partitas. Paul Manz has long served the church as recitalist, composer, teacher and leader in worship. He is Cantor Emeritus at the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Saint Luke, Chicago, Illinois; as well as Cantor Emeritus of Mount Olive Lutheran Church in Minneapolis, Minnesota. He is the director of the newly established Paul Manz Institute of Church Music, and is Professor Emeritus of Church Music at Christ Seminary at the Lutheran School of Theology in Chicago.

We welcome the Children's Choir this morning as they sing a setting of Psalm 98 by American composer for children, Maureen Sindlinger. We are very proud to have so many so young voices participating today. The members of the Choir are: Matthew and Will Dinola, Kaitlyn and Sam Kauffman, Darrah, Griffith and Will Speis and Timmy Sterne. Thank you!

"O Taste and See" is a classic motet composed in the middle 20th Century and taking verse 8 from Psalm 34 as its text. Ralph Vaughan Williams begins this gem with a crystal clear sound in the form of a young voice reciting the entire verse. The choir then repeats this text and brings the music gently to a close.

We welcome Jessie Ragland, as our guest soloist this morning. Jessie is a junior at Frostburg State University majoring in Vocal Performance and studies with Patricia Kelby.

Statement of Purpose

Our Church exists to worship God and proclaim the gospel of Jesus Christ. By the power of the Spirit, we shall serve God's Kingdom by loving our neighbors and promoting peacemaking, justice and care of the earth.

Statement of Vision

We embrace open and progressive theology. Through education, training, worship and Session leadership we will realize our vision both individually and in community. We will be open to new ideas and programs while staying true to our beliefs and traditions. We will commit our personal and corporate resources to embody our Statement of Purpose. We will live our lives responsibly with honesty and integrity.

About the Affirmation of Faith

The PC (USA) Book of Confessions is a collection of Confessions from the church in many ages and many different situations. Therefore, its expressions of faith cover a multitude of theological opinions, many of which are obviously influenced by who participated in their preparation and the times and customs of their era. While not necessarily agreeing with every statement precisely, our Ministers, Elders, and Deacons swear to be guided by its principles and truths. We select a passage from one of these Confessions each month to experience and explore the breadth and depth of our heritage.

Continuing our exploration of the Confessions, in February we will be using extracts from the Westminster Confession of Faith (1643-1649).

Parliament had appealed to Scotland asking for military aid. The price for Scottish cooperation was a Solemn League and Covenant to bind together England, Scotland and Ireland with a common Confession of Faith, Directory for Worship, Form of Church Government, and Catechism. Despite some initial reluctance by the English Parliamentary representatives, and its denunciation by the king, the Covenant was subscribed, not only by official representatives but widely by the British people.

The Divines met initially on Saturday, July 1 1643 in Westminster Abbey. By 1647 the assembly had delivered to Parliament the Westminster Confession of Faith as its guide in doctrine, a Shorter Catechism for teaching the faith to children, a Larger Catechism to aid ministers in their preaching, a Directory of Public Worship, a form for Presbyterian Church government, and a Psalter to provide biblical psalms to be sung in public worship. The last numbered sitting of the Westminster Assembly was February 22, 1649. It had sat for five and one-half years, meeting on average about four times a week.

What's Happening This Week:



SUNDAY, FEBRUARY (22)

9:00 AM Children's Choir Rehearsal
9:30 AM Sunday School for All Ages
10:15 AM Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal
10:30 AM Coffee Hour in the Library
11:00 AM Worship Service, Transfiguration of the Lord Sunday
Gail Plitnik, Guest Preacher, On the Air WCBC
3:00 PM Faculty Recital at FSU
4:30 PM GAFOSAC Meeting
5:00 PM Book Study in Pastor's Office

MONDAY, FEBRUARY (23)

9:00 AM Church Office Open
9:00 AM Learning Tree Nursery School
10:00 AM Book Study in Pastor's Office

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY (24)

9:00 AM Church Office Open
9:00 AM Learning Tree Nursery School
5:30 PM Pee Wee Teams Basketball Practice

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY (25) Ash Wednesday

9:00 AM Church Office Open
9:00 AM Learning Tree Nursery School
6:00 PM Middler Team Basketball Practice
7:00 PM Ash Wednesday Communion Service
7:00 PM Seniors Team II Basketball Practice
8:00 PM Seniors Team I Basketball Practice

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY (26)

9:00 AM Church Office Open
9:00 AM Learning Tree Nursery School
7:00 PM Session Meeting

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY (27)

9:00 AM Church Office Open
9:00 AM Learning Tree Nursery School

SUNDAY, MARCH (1)

9:00 AM Children's Choir Rehearsal
9:30 AM Sunday School for All Ages
10:15 AM Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal
10:30 AM Coffee Hour in the Library
11:00 AM Worship Service, 1st Sunday in Lent, FSU Gospel Choir, Rev. Bob Gamble,
On the Air WCBC
12:15 PM Lunch with FSU Gospel Choir
4:30 PM GAFOSAC Meeting
5:00 PM Book Study in Pastor's Office