**Order of Worship for Sunday, February 14, 2020**

**Transfiguration Sunday - Created Anew: Descending to Share the Story**

**In an act of ultimate creativity, Jesus’ identity as the Son of God is revealed to us.**

**How do we descend from the mountaintop to share such an experience?**

\*Not available on prerecorded services

Listen at 814-422-6238. Watch online at www.PennsValleyParish.info

CALL TO WORSHIP

L: Get ready! A miraculous thing is about to happen!

**P: What is this!**

L: The powerful light of Jesus will transform your lives!

**P: But we are unworthy to receive this light.**

L: Jesus himself has proclaimed you worthy and beloved. Come, and live in the light.

**P: Praise be to God and to Jesus Christ who has healed and redeemed us.**

OPENING PRAYER

**The darkness of winter has been our companion, Lord. Now the days are lengthening. Bring your light to us, that we might see your glory and may work for you, offering hope and peace to this world. We ask this, in Jesus’ Name. AMEN.**

HYMN Open My Eyes, That I May See UMH 454

BLESSING OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS – DOXOLOGY

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

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE Naaman Follows Directions

JOYS AND CONCERNS - (The Lord’s Prayer “trespass”)

SELECTED SCRIPTURE Mark 1:29-39, Isaiah 40:21-31

MESSAGE Descending to Share the Story

HYMN He is Lord UMH 177 - ***He is Lord, He is Lord, He is risen from the dead and He is Lord. Every knee shall bow, every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord.***

COMMISSION & BLESSING

PASTOR CONTACT INFORMATION

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BIBLE STUDY: Transfiguration Sunday – But Only Jesus

Read [Mark 9:2-9](https://lectionary.library.vanderbilt.edu/texts.php?id=69#gospel_reading)

* Why do you think Moses and Elijah are part of this scene? *[Moses likely represents the law, and Elijah represents the prophets. One greater than the law and prophets is standing among them!]* How does their importance magnify the importance of Jesus as God’s Son?
* How is this passage connected to the first passage we explored in this series (baptism of Jesus)? What do both of these passages have in common? *[God’s voice speaking over Jesus.]* How do both stories reveal Jesus’ identity and mission? *[In Jesus’ baptism, the reader learns of Jesus’ identity. In the transfiguration, Jesus’ identity and authority are affirmed.]*
* The last few passages we have explored showed Jesus healing and casting out demons – meeting the needs of the people. In this passage, we, like Peter, James, and John, stand in awe of who Jesus is. How is Jesus’ healings and casting out of demons connected to the voice from the cloud in verse 7? *[These were ways Jesus displayed the coming of God’s kingdom and God’s work through him.]* How is this command, to “listen to him!” also for disciples of Jesus today? When is the last time you stood in awe of Jesus? Where do you need Jesus to speak in your life?
* In the first couple of weeks, we were invited to reread the baptismal and Communion liturgies as resources for understanding our identity and mission as disciples. Another resource that helps us understand what we believe about God as disciples is the Nicene Creed. Read this creed. What do you learn about Jesus? God? About being a disciple?
* Once again, we see Jesus tell the disciples not to share what they had seen (until later). How do those of us who live post-Resurrection tell about this Jesus? How is telling and sharing our faith a vital part of our discipleship?
* How do you feel called to grow as a disciple?

CLOSING PRAYER

*Covenant God, we stand in awe of your love. Your love seeks not punishment, but the reconciliation of the world. Give us the hands to serve and the words to proclaim your forgiving grace to all we encounter. Empower us to be disciples of Jesus Christ who help transform the world. Amen.*