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Please speak with
an usher if you
would like to use a
**large-print
bulletin** to follow
the service.

The **Call to
Worship** was
written by the
Rev. Rob Smith,
Spirit of Life
Presbyterian
Church, Apple
Valley, MN.

TRANSFIGURATION *of the* LORD

February 19, 2023 • 9:30 a.m.

As we enter a holy space and time this morning, please silence all electronic devices. The opening voluntary is the call to silent meditation.

* Please rise in body or spirit when you see this symbol,
and join in singing or reading aloud text in **bold**.

GATHERING

OPENING VOLUNTARY

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing arr. Cathy Moglebust
Sanctus Ringers

WELCOME AND LIFE IN THE CHURCH

* CALL TO WORSHIP

Beyond our busyness,
Above the cold winter floor,
There is a glory rising, born of heaven,
And reaching out to each one of us,

**A light that shines through the clouds,
An invitation seeking all of who we are,
That transfigures the world,**

That transforms darkness into hope,
That brings life from a cross,
Where old life ends and new life is born.

**In glory Jesus meets us here,
Raising us from depths of the valley to the height of the mountain,
Carrying the weight of our humanity
To the heights of heaven's glory.**

Let us worship from the mountain and hear again
“This is my Son, my Chosen; listen to him!”

* HYMN 189 *O Wondrous Sight, O Vision Fair* DEO GRACIAS

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of mercy and grace, you emerge among us in surprising ways,
calling us toward love, justice, and reconciliation. We confess that
too often we close ourselves off to one another, settling for what is
comfortable over what is right. You invite us to see you in new ways,
and to be transformed by your presence, yet we fear the change
that transformation requires. Forgive us when selfishness prevails.
Beckon us into your mystery. Open our hearts to imagination. Open
our minds to possibility. Transform our fears into hope...

SILENT PRAYER

KYRIE

GHANA

Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer-cy, Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

* PASSING OF THE PEACE

You are invited to share signs with one another of the peace we experience as God’s people. Greet one another saying, “The peace of Christ be with you,” and respond, “And also with you.”

* CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

GLORIA

Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry in the high - est!
Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

PROCLAIMING the WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 17:1-9

This is the Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

A CONVERSATION WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

Please join in singing the refrain of Hymn 591, Halle, Halle, Hallelujah!, as the children come forward.
Halle, halle, hallelujah!
Halle, halle, hallelujah!
Halle, halle, hallelujah!
Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING

Exodus 24:12-18

The grass withers, the flower fades;
The word of the Lord endures forever.

SERMON

Caught in the Mystery

This week's Growing in God's Love Bible story, *The Generous Landowner*, is found on page 226.

The musical transition following the first scripture reading invites all ages to be active participants while signaling to children an important moment in worship focused toward them.

Worship LAB is a place where children explore the flow of worship through multi-sensory experiences. Children age 5 through 5th grade are invited to join in Worship Lab each week. This week's LAB focuses on Confession.

RESPONDING *and* SEALING

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

In keeping with the reverence of worship, photos may not be taken during the service.

Hannah and Jareth Glanda present their son, Jack David Glanda, born February 27, 2022, for baptism.

* Affirmation of Faith

The Apostles' 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 Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on 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 Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

Thanksgiving over the Water and Baptism

Hymn

Child of Blessing, Child of Promise

KINGDOM

1. Child of bless-ing, child of prom-ise, bap-tized with the Spir-it's sign, with this
2. Child of love, our love's ex-pres-sion, love's cre-a-tion, loved in-deed! Fresh from

wa-ter God has sealed you un-to love and grace di-vine.
God. re-fresh our spir-its; in-to joy and laugh-ter lead.

Ways to give: Cash/Check

Place in the offering plate or in the mail

Text-to-Give

Text the amount you would like to give to 855-904-1523

Online

<https://bit.ly/FPCvanco>

Vanco Mobile App



OFFERING OF TITHES AND GIFTS

Offertory

Anthem for Transfiguration
Chancel Choir

Paul W. Hofreiter

This is my Son, my Chosen One.
Listen to him! My Chosen Son! Listen!

*Doxology

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow.
Praise God, all creatures here below. Alleluia, alleluia!
Praise God above ye heavenly host.
Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Alleluia, Alleluia!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

* Prayer of Dedication

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND 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.

SENDING

* HYMN 190 *Swiftly Pass the Clouds of Glory* GENEVA

* CHARGE AND BENEDICTION
Please be seated for the Closing Voluntary.

CLOSING VOLUNTARY
Prelude on DEO GRACIAS Healey Willan



*The chancel flowers are given in loving memory
of her parents, Delia and Laurin Hunter, by Molly Dobson.*

Please sign and pass the **Friendship Pad**. First-time-guests, we especially appreciate your contact information, legibly written, so we can give you a fuller welcome this week.

Music copyrights:
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Cover art:
“Transfiguration”
Hand-carved block printed with oil-based ink on paper
By Lauren Wright Pittman

We are glad you are here!

First Presbyterian Church is an inclusive and diverse faith community, led by the Holy Spirit, who welcomes people of all ages and backgrounds to come together to explore, nurture, and deepen their faith.

PRAYER

If you would like someone to pray with you, drop in Hillegonds Chapel after the service. Elders, Deacons, and Stephen Ministers are always there to assist those seeking prayer. Today’s prayer partners are Martha Kershaw and Linda Lampman.

GET CONNECTED

Please use the Friendship Pad located in the pew to let us know you joined us in worship. To stay up to date with what’s happening at First Pres, sign up for our weekly email “Our Life Together” using this QR code.



CHILDREN IN WORSHIP

Children ages 5 through 5th grade are invited to Worship LAB — a multi-sensory worship experience just for them.

Childcare is available for ages 5 and younger on the First Level from 9 a.m. to noon. Children are always welcome to stay with their families during worship. We encourage you to pick up a worship activity bag, try sitting near the front, and sing along with the music.

WORSHIP LEADERS

<i>Preacher</i>	<i>Organist</i>	<i>Ushers</i>
Hannah Lundberg	David Hufford	Beth Gerwig
<i>Welcome</i>	<i>Conductor</i>	Greta Krapohl
Jay Sanderford	David VanderMeer	Jenna Mares
<i>Liturgists</i>	Chancel Choir	Ken Westfall
Megan Berry	Sanctus Ringers	Holly Majorprice
Melissa Anne Rogers	<i>Welcome Center</i>	Chloe Majorprice
<i>Lector</i>	Anne Kloack	Aidan Majorprice
David Yntema	Emily Kloack	Carol Smith
		Paul Smith

ARTIST REFLECTION

Transfiguration (Inspired by Mark 8:31–9:8)
Hand-carved block printed with oil-based ink on paper
By Lauren Wright Pittman

In this image, I zoomed out to focus on the moment of Transfiguration. Jesus shines like a beacon atop the high mountain while former prophets appear. The disciples are terrified, but also want to live this moment forever, making the glory-filled rock face their home. At once a cloud descends, obscuring things further, and God’s voice echoes down, “This is my Son, the Beloved, listen to him!” (Mark 9:7). It’s almost as though Jesus had exhausted all efforts to get the disciples to listen, and God had to spectacularly reiterate the importance of listening. I think it’s important to note that following God’s words, all the disciples could see was Jesus.

Today at First

Embracing Hope Information Session

9:00 a.m. | Curtis Room (Level 2)

Children's Choir

10:45 a.m. | Lemon Chapel (Level 3)

Youth Classes

11:00 a.m. | LL4, LL1 (Lower Level)

Tell Me More About This Church

11:00 a.m. | Founders Room (Level 2)

Embracing Hope Information Session

11:00 a.m. | Curtis Room (Level 2)

First Friends

Lessons from Dietrich Bonhoeffer

11:00 a.m. | Lewis Room (Level 2)

Exploring the Faith

Dismantling Racism:

Opportunity Index for Washtenaw County

11:00 a.m. | Monteith Hall (Level 1)

The Bible at 11 o'clock

2 Corinthians

11:00 a.m. | French Room (Level 1)

Kerygma Bible Study

11:00 a.m. | Vance Room (Level 2)

Children's Classes

11:15 a.m. | Classrooms (Levels 1 & 3)

UKirk @ UMich College Lunch

12:00 p.m. | Off site

Contact: hlundberg@firstpresbyterian.org

4th & 5th Grade & Parents

Amazing Stuff: God's Plan for Growing Up

4:30 p.m. | Curtis Room, LL4

Youth Group

6:00 p.m. | Youth Room (Lower Level)

T2A2 Young Adults

7:00 p.m. | Off site

Contact: hlundberg@firstpresbyterian.org

News & Events

Embracing Hope Information Sessions — During the month of February, our entire church community will engage in a collective process to imagine our future and chart the course ahead. Your feedback is important. You will have multiple opportunities to engage in the process through in-person and online informational gatherings. We encourage you to attend one meeting at a time your schedule allows. The meeting will last one hour, and you will have a short questionnaire to fill out at the end. This week gatherings will be held:

Sunday, February 19

9:00 & 11:00 a.m.

Curtis Room

Thursday, February 23

6:00 p.m.

Lewis Room

Friday, February 25

10:00 a.m. (hybrid)

Curtis Room

Annual Meeting of the Congregation — The Annual Meeting of the Congregation will be held Sunday, February 26, following 9:30 a.m. worship for the purpose of approving the pastors' terms of call and receiving the 2022 annual report and the 2023 annual budget.

Presbyterian Disaster Assistance — Following the earthquake that has killed thousands in Turkey and Syria, Presbyterian Disaster Assistance has pledged assistance to relief partners in the area. First Presbyterian Church is accepting donations that we will send directly to PDA. If you want to contribute, visit firstpresbyterian.org/mission/presbyterian-disaster-assistance.

Social Hour Hosts Needed — We are looking for folks who will help put cookies on trays and on tables in the Social Hall before Social Hour (usually on the last hymn) — and help us at the end to put the cookie trays in the kitchen to be washed by staff the next day. Can you help? Sign up online at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090f45a4ac283-coffee/>

Lent

A SEASON OF RENEWAL

ASH WEDNESDAY

February 22, 2023

Begin the season of Lent by joining us for worship and the imposition of ashes.

8:00 - 9:00 a.m. & 12:00 - 1:00 p.m.
Drive-through Imposition of Ashes

12:00 - 1:00 p.m.
Walk-through Imposition of Ashes on the Diag of U of M

5:30 p.m. Family Service
7:00 p.m. Ecumenical Taizé

TAIZÉ SERVICE

Tuesday, March 7
7:00 p.m.

We invite you to come experience a beautiful form of prayer, inspired by the ecumenical community in Taizé, France.

HOME WORSHIP GATHERINGS

Tuesdays, March 14 - 28
6:00 p.m.

Simple worship gatherings will be held in various homes throughout the season of Lent. Limited to 25 people per gathering. Sign up online at firstpresbyterian.org

PEEPS & PIZZA

Saturday, April 8
10:00 a.m.

Create a Bible story diorama using marshmallow Peeps. Then, an outdoor pizza lunch and children's egg hunt will be held on the front lawn. Lunch is a suggested \$5 per person donation. We will proudly display the dioramas in the Social Hall on Easter Sunday. Register online at firstpresbyterian.org

ALPHA HOUSE WEEK OF CARING

March 20 - 27

During the week of March 20, volunteer to support guests of Alpha House, a shelter for children and parents. To volunteer, visit firstpresbyterian.org.

LENTEN WORSHIP SERVICES

Sundays, March 6 - April 10
8:00 a.m. | Monteith Hall
9:30 a.m. | Sanctuary & Livestream

Join us throughout Lent for a time of prayer and self-examination in preparation for the celebration of the resurrection of the Lord at Easter.

LENTEN EMAIL DEVOTIONAL

Begin each day with a Lenten devotion written by church members and staff. To receive the email devotion, contact Rev. Melissa Anne Rogers at mrogers@firstpresbyterian.org.

LENTEN WEEKLY WALKS

Wednesday, March 1
2:00 - 5:00 p.m.
Gallup Park

Tuesday, March 7
9:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
The Arboretum (meet at First Pres)

Thursday, March 16
9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
Bird Hills

Friday, March 24
10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
Dhu Varren Woods

Saturday, April 1
10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
Hudson Mills

Friday, April 7 (Good Friday)
12:00 p.m.
The Arboretum (meet at First Pres)

All ages and stages of life welcome. A pastoral liaison will guide the group. Sign up at firstpresbyterian.org.

ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING

Sundays, April 2 & 9

Join with Presbyterians worldwide in sharing God's love with our neighbors in need by providing relief from natural disasters, food for the hungry, and support for the poor and oppressed. To give, visit firstpresbyterian.org.