

Bower Hill Community Church (Presbyterian USA)  
Order for Worship ~ Transfiguration of the Lord ~ 2 March 2025

Preparation for Worship:

*“The greatest thing a human soul ever does in this world is to see something and tell what it saw in a plain way.  
To see clearly is poetry, prophecy and religion, all in one.”*

~John Ruskin

**Prelude**

*Glorificamus*

John Redmond

**Introit**

*Alleluia*

**Call to Worship:**

Leader: At the mountain of the Lord, bow down,

**People: For the Lord our God is holy.**

**Litany for Transfiguration:**

Leader: Blessed is the Lord our God, who revealed the law to Moses.

**People: The Lord our God is holy.**

Leader: Blessed is the Lord our God, who has spoken through the prophets.

**People: The Lord our God is holy.**

Leader: Blessed is the Lord our God, who comes to us in Jesus Christ.

**People: The Lord our God is holy.**

**Prayer of Adoration:**

Great God of dazzling beauty and overshadowing majesty, in Jesus Christ, your beloved, we glimpse the image of your glory. Teach us to listen to him, so that we may hear your voice and follow in your way; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God now and forever. Amen.

**\*Hymn 12**

*Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise*

*1 Immortal, invisible, God only wise,  
in light inaccessible hid from our eyes,  
most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,  
almighty, victorious, thy great name we praise.*

*2 Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light,  
nor wanting, nor wasting, thou rulest in might:  
thy justice, like mountains high soaring above;  
thy clouds, which are fountains of goodness and love.*

*3 To all, life thou givest, to both great and small.  
In all life thou livest, the true life of all.  
We blossom and flourish like leaves on the tree,  
then wither and perish; but naught changeth thee.*

*4 Thou reignest in glory; thou dwellest in light.  
Thine angels adore thee, all veiling their sight.  
All praise we would render; O help us to see  
'tis only the splendor of light hideth thee!*

**Call to Prayer**

Jesus said, “Nothing is hidden that will not be disclosed, nor is anything secret that will not come to the light.” Trusting in God’s grace, let us confess our sins:

**Prayer of Confession:**

**God of compassion, in Jesus Christ you reveal the light of your glory, but we turn away, distracted by our own plans. We confess that we speak when we should listen, and act when we should wait. Forgive our aimless enthusiasms. Grant us wisdom to live in your light and to follow in your way. [Silent prayers]**

## Words of Assurance

The One who calls light out of darkness now shines in our hearts. Friends, hear and believe the good news of the gospel of Jesus Christ: in him we are forgiven. Amen.

## \*\*The Gloria: Hymn 583

*Glory to God, glory to God, glory in the highest. Glory to God, glory to God, alleluia, alleluia.*

## \*The Peace

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

**People: And also with you.**

Leader: Let us greet one another with the peace of Christ.

## Time with the Children

*All children from preschool through fourth grade are invited to the front steps for the children's sermon.*

## Prayer of Illumination

God of shining splendor, your voice makes the earth tremble in wonder. Overshadow us with your Spirit so that we may hear your Word and live as faithful disciples and covenant people. Amen.

## First Scripture Reading

Exodus 34:29-35

Leader: The Word of the Lord

**People: Thanks be to God.**

## Psalter: Hymn 327

*From All That Dwell Below the Skies  
Please remain seated for the singing of the Psalms.*

## Psalm 117

## Second Scripture Reading

Luke 9:28-36

## Choral Anthem

*When the World Feels Too Heavy*

Cantor Natalie Young (Womens' Hymns)

## Sermon

**"How Things Really Are"**

Rev. Dr. Brian Snyder

## Response

*Amen*

## \*Affirmation of Faith

"Credo for Christians"

**I worship and adore God, source, essence, and aim of all things,  
Spirit that enlivens all beings.**

**I follow the way of Jesus, who found God in himself  
and shared a way for others to find God in themselves.**

**He was born through love,**

**He lived for love,**

**He suffered for love,**

**He died for love,**

**But love never dies.**

**I submit myself to the leading of the love that is God,  
that I may be compassionate toward all beings,  
that I may live and serve in community with others,  
that I may ask for and offer forgiveness,  
that I may praise and enjoy God forever.**

**Amen.**

## Offerings and Gifts of Self

## Offertory

## \*The Doxology: Hymn 606, 607

*Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow*

Old Hundredth

*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.*

*\*For a gender-neutral version, see hymn 607.*

## \*Prayer of Dedication

## **Sacrament of the Lord's Supper**

*The Sacrament of Holy Communion is received today in the pews. Please hold the bread until the minister invites you to partake. Gluten-free bread is available upon request. You may drink the cup whenever you wish. Everyone is invited to receive communion without exception, and anyone is free to abstain.*

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 our thanks and praise.**

## **The Sanctus: Hymn 565**

*Holy, Holy, Holy Lord  
Holy, holy, holy Lord! God of power, God of might!  
Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest! Hosanna in the highest!*

Remain seated

## **Communion Music**

### **Pastoral Prayer 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.**

*\*Or "Mother" or "Parent"*

## **Welcome and Next Steps**

### **\*Closing Hymn 66**

*Every Time I Feel the Spirit*

*Refrain:*

*Every time I feel the Spirit  
moving in my heart I will pray.  
Yes, every time I feel the Spirit  
moving in my heart I will pray.*

*1 Upon the mountain, when my Lord spoke,  
out of God's mouth came fire and smoke.  
Looked all around me, it looked so fine,  
till I asked my Lord if all was mine. [Refrain]*

*2 Jordan River, chilly and cold,  
it chills the body but not the soul.  
There is but one train upon this track.  
It runs to heaven and then right back. [Refrain]*

### **\*Charge and Benediction**

## **Postlude**

*Carillon*

*Feel free to exit during the postlude, mindful of those who wish to stay and listen.*

Vierne