

**Prelude to the message:**

But every now and then, we catch a glimpse of something larger, something deeper more profound.

Every now and then, we hear a word that reverberates in our soul for weeks if not a lifetime.

Every now and then, a tear comes to our eye as we stand on the precipice of glory,

Every now and then a lump comes to our throat.

**Musical Prelude:** AINa That Good News John Carter

**Call to Worship:** (Matthew 17:1-8, Mark 9:2-9, Luke 9:28-36)

We have seen the light of God;  
on high mountains of celebration  
and in the ecstasy of a lover's embrace.

We have seen the light of God;  
through the bitter scorn of betrayal  
and the searing chasm of grief.

We have seen the light of God;  
with eyes that have been shaded,  
with eyes that have been opened,  
with eyes that have been blinded.  
We have seen the light of God.

**Hymn:** Swing Low Sweet Chariot

I looked over Jordan and what did I see?  
Comin' for to carry me home  
A band of angels, a-comin' after me  
Comin' for to carry me home

Swing low, sweet chariot  
Comin' for to carry me home  
Swing low, sweet chariot  
Comin' for to carry me home

I'm sometimes up, and sometimes down  
Comin' for to carry me home  
But I know my soul is heavenly bound  
Comin' for to carry me home

Swing low, sweet chariot  
Comin' for to carry me home  
Swing low, sweet chariot  
Comin' for to carry me home

If you get there before I do  
Comin' for to carry me home  
Tell all my friends that I'm a-comin' too  
Comin' for to carry me home

Swing low, sweet chariot  
Comin' for to carry me home  
Swing low, sweet chariot  
Comin' for to carry me home  
And now they're comin' for to carry me home

## **Lighting the Christ Candle:**

When You are in our midst  
Everything around is different:  
Through the cold winter's mist  
Sunlight seems to shine around us.  
The world is clothed in gold,  
Clouds go and light surrounds us,  
As on Mt Tabor where  
Everything was transfigured.  
*In You and with You, in our midst.*

When You are in our midst  
Wisdom transforms all our being,  
Changing us into You  
Until we all feel renewed,  
As the disciples did.  
A paradise surrounds us  
Heavenly music plays  
And we wish to stay always  
*In You and with You, in our midst.*

## **Opening Prayer:** *This is my chosen Son; listen to him.*

You are God's chosen Son, O Lord.  
Please help us listen to you.  
Help us open our hearts to your grace.  
Help us believe, help us love.  
We are small and we become afraid.

Show us your dazzling glory  
hidden in the hum-drum  
of our wondrous, everyday lives.  
Though we are sinners,  
make us one with you, and let us  
bring your life, death and resurrection  
to all people.

## **Anthem:** Wade in the Water Glen Baskerville

## **Children's Time with Ashley**

### **Hymn:** In Christ Alone.

In Christ alone my hope is found,  
He is my light, my strength, my song;  
This Cornerstone, this solid Ground,  
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm.  
What heights of love, what depths of peace,  
When fears are stilled, when strivings cease!  
My Comforter, my All in All,  
Here in the love of Christ I stand.

In Christ alone! – who took on flesh,  
Fullness of God in helpless babe.  
This gift of love and righteousness,  
Scorned by the ones He came to save:  
Till on that cross as Jesus died,  
The wrath of God was satisfied –  
For every sin on Him was laid;  
Here in the death of Christ I live.

There in the ground His body lay,  
Light of the world by darkness slain;  
Then bursting forth in glorious day  
Up from the grave He rose again!  
And as He stands in victory  
Sin's curse has lost its grip on me,  
For I am His and He is mine –  
Bought with the precious blood of Christ.

No guilt in life, no fear in death,  
This is the power of Christ in me;  
From life's first cry to final breath,  
Jesus commands my destiny.  
No power of hell, no scheme of man,  
Can ever pluck me from His hand:  
Till He returns or calls me home,  
Here in the power of Christ I'll stand.

**PRAYER:** GLORY (Matthew 17:1-8, Mark 9:2-9, Luke 9:28-36, 2 Peter 1:16-18)

We worship you, O God, with songs of praise. We worship you with words of prayer and with ears that listen for you to speak your saving truth into our lives. We worship you in the silent spaces where we struggle for hope and for courage. We long for a glimpse of your glory: the glory that shines in the darkness and the darkness cannot overcome it; the glory that touches lives with a beauty so holy that it heals the wounded soul; the glory that gives strength to the weary. <i>- written by Christine Jerrett,</i>	We, who stumble and fall so often, worship you, longing for your light to shine upon us. Dazzle us with your holy love, draw us into your purifying presence, speak to us your transforming truth. Then, grant us grace to live every moment changed by such glory— daring to live with hope and courage and love reflecting the life of Jesus, through whom your glory shines in the most unexpected ways. Amen
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**Hymn:** I'd Rather have Jesus

1 I'd rather have Jesus than silver or gold; I'd rather be His than have riches untold; I'd rather have Jesus than houses or lands. I'd rather be led by His nail pierced hand	2 I'd rather have Jesus than men's applause; I'd rather be faithful to His dear cause; I'd rather have Jesus than worldwide fame. I'd rather be true to His holy name [Chorus]
Chorus: Than to be the king of a vast domain Or be held in sin's dread sway. I'd rather have Jesus than anything This world affords today.	3 He's fairer than lilies of rarest bloom; He's sweeter than honey from out the comb; He's all that my hungering spirit needs. I'd rather have Jesus and let Him lead [Chorus]

**Prayer of Confession:** (Matthew 17:1-8, Mark 9:2-9, Luke 9:28-36)

Lord Jesus Christ, God's glory and love shone through you that day on the mountain and you persisted in revealing that glory and love through your words and deeds; through your life of humble service. We hear again these wonderful words of God "You are my Son, the Beloved, listen to him!." We confess our failure to listen to you because of the influence on our lives of the gods of this world. When this happens our attitudes conceal rather than reveal your glory and your love.

If we conceal your love  
because our pursuit of other priorities  
prevents us from seeing and serving people in need:  
forgive us, Lord.  
If we conceal your glory  
because all we reflect is our own self-centredness:  
forgive us, Lord

If we conceal your truth  
through our lack of credible witness:  
forgive us, Lord.  
If we conceal your justice  
through our failure to empower those who are powerless:  
forgive us, Lord.  
If we conceal your mercy  
because of our hard and unforgiving attitudes:  
forgive us, Lord. If we conceal your compassion  
because of our prejudice and intolerance:  
forgive us, Lord.

Lord Jesus Christ,  
cleanse our lives of all shameful attitudes of mind and heart  
so that we reveal your glory  
in and through all we do and say and are.  
This we pray in your name  
and in the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen

### **Assurance of Forgiveness: (2 Corinthians 4:6)**

It is the God who said, "Let light shine out of darkness" who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ. The good news is that we are not only enlightened by our belief in Christ, we are cleansed and we are forgiven! Thanks be to God!

*~ Moira Laidlaw, on Liturgies Online.*

### **Hymn Since I Laid My Burdens Down**

1 Glory, glory, hallelujah!  
Since I laid my burdens down.  
Glory, glory, hallelujah!  
Since I laid my burdens down!

3 I'm goin' home to live with Jesus  
Since I laid my burdens down.  
I'm goin' home to live with Jesus  
Since I laid my burdens down!

2 Friends don't treat me like they used to  
Since I laid my burdens down.  
Friends don't treat me like they used to  
Since I laid my burdens down!

4 I feel better, so much better  
Since I laid my burdens down.  
I feel better, so much better  
Since I laid my burdens down!

### **THE WORD**

#### **First Lesson:**

**2 Kings 2:1–12** Elijah is taken up into heaven.

**Psalm 50:1–6** (VU p. 775) God summons the earth

#### **Gospel:**

**2 Corinthians 4:3–6** The light of knowledge shines in our hearts.

**Mark 9:2–9** The transfiguration of Jesus

**Message:** King of King, Lord of Lords, I Caught a Glimpse of Glory **Tabitha**

**THE RESPONSE:**

The Offering

**Offertory Prayer:**

God of Transformation, we come together as those who have met you on the mountaintop. We have each had our holy encounters with you; and in those moments, we have wanted to stay on the mountain and retreat from the world. We know that is our longing, not yours. So, as we offer our gifts this morning in response to your blessings in our life, remind us that our mission begins as we leave this place, and help us hold our memories of those mountaintop encounters with you in our hearts. We pray boldly in Jesus' name. Amen. (Mark 9:2-9)

**Prayers of the People:** (Matthew 17:1-8, Mark 9:2-9, Luke 9:28-36)

Holy and loving God - whose nature and ways are far beyond our understanding, we thank you for the gift of your Son Jesus - who lets us see your face in his, who shows us your love in his actions, your grace in his manner of being. In him too, O God, we see ourselves as you would have us be and as your power is able to make us. Make us more like him now we pray... Lord hear our prayer.....

Lord - we often find ourselves weary, tired out by a load of care, a heap of responsibility and concern. We hunger and thirst, and often fail to stop to eat and drink at the table you have prepared for us. Lord, we are here now - and we ask you - grant us a glimpse of your glory - fill us with your spirit - refresh us and make us new ... Lord hear our prayer.....

Loving God, we pray that your glory may fill your church and give to your people everywhere the energy to shine wherever there is darkness, disunity, persecution, or despair... Lord hear our prayer....

Father, we pray for those we named in our sharing time and for all those whose names are upon our hearts. Grant to them health and wholeness, peace and joy, strength and hope... We remember before you:

(intercessions and petitions as shared in sharing time)

..... Lord hear our prayer....

Give us all, O Lord, a greater love of your holiness, a greater delight in your mystery, and a greater joy in seeking your presence. We ask it through Christ Jesus, who revealed your will to us and who taught us to pray to you as one family,

## **Join me in singing the Lord's Prayer: V.U. 960**

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 trespasses  
As we forgive them that trespass against us  
And lead us not into temptation  
But deliver us from evil  
For Thine is the kingdom  
And the power and the glory  
For ever and ever Amen

## **Hymn: Shine Jesus Shine**

Lord, the light of your love is shining  
In the midst of the darkness, shining  
Jesus, Light of the world, shine upon us  
Set us free by the truth you now bring us  
Shine on me, shine on me

Shine, Jesus, shine  
Fill this land with the Father's glory  
Blaze, Spirit, blaze  
Set our hearts on fire  
Flow, river, flow  
Flood the nations with grace and mercy  
Send forth your word  
Lord, and let there be light

Lord, I come to your awesome presence  
From the shadows into your radiance  
By the blood I may enter your brightness  
Search me, try me, consume all my  
darkness  
Shine on me, shine on me

Shine, Jesus, shine  
Fill this land with the Father's glory  
Blaze, Spirit, blaze  
Set our hearts on fire  
Flow, river, flow  
Flood the nations with grace and mercy  
Send forth your word  
Lord, and let there be light

As we gaze on your kingly brightness  
So our faces display your likeness  
Ever changing from glory to glory  
Mirrored here may our lives tell your  
story  
Shine on me, shine on me

Shine, Jesus, shine  
Fill this land with the Father's glory  
Blaze, Spirit, blaze  
Set our hearts on fire  
Flow, river, flow  
Flood the nations with grace and mercy  
Send forth your word  
Lord, and let there be

Send forth your  
Send forth your word  
Lord, and let there  
Send forth your word  
Send forth your word  
Lord, and let there be light

## **Blessing:**

Go now, and speak of what you have seen of God's glory.  
Do not cling to the holy moments  
when heaven overshadows you,  
but as the Lord lives, listen to Christ and follow him  
from the places of revelation  
to the places of mission.

And may God shine the light of glory into your hearts.  
May Christ be with you and never leave you.  
And may the Spirit renew the image of God within you.

**Postlude:** Christ- Whose Glory Fills the Skies *Johanne G Werner, Arr. Cindy Berry*

## **PRAYER FOR TRANSFIGURATION SUNDAY**

Our request for the light of God to shine  
in our lives brightly and in full force is  
heard and will be answered.

Radiant God, source of light,  
as you surrounded Jesus with your glory,  
so you come to us in penetrating  
brightness.

You catch us off guard and expose our  
weakness.

We choose the limelight while you call us  
to explore the shadows  
and brighten the darkness.

We seek the spectacular while you bind  
up the broken in  
countless acts of mercy.

We seek to stay on the mountain or in a  
comfortable pew while  
you walk to the valleys of need.

Radiant God,

fill us with light and courage to carry  
good news into all the  
corners of the world and to bring back  
the joy of your presence.  
Amen