



**AVON VALLEY
CHURCHES**
LOVING • CONNECTING • SERVING

An Evening Service

Sunday Next Before Lent (Year B)

TRANSFIGURATION SUNDAY
Valentine's Day

February 14th, 2021, 10.00 AVC On-Line, 6.00p.m.

Preparation

Greeting

The light and peace of Jesus Christ be with you
and also with you.

The glory of the Lord has risen upon us.
Let us rejoice and sing God's praise for ever.

HYMN: 'TIS GOOD, LORD, TO BE HERE

1. 'Tis good, Lord, to be here,
Thy glory fills the night;
Thy face and garments, like the sun,
Shine with unborrowed light.

2. 'Tis good, Lord, to be here,
Thy beauty to behold,
Where Moses and Elijah stand,
Thy messengers of old.

3. Fulfiller of the past!
Promise of things to be!
We hail thy body glorified,
And our redemption see.

4. Before we taste of death,
We see thy kingdom come;
We fain would hold the vision bright,
And make this hill our home.

5. 'Tis good, Lord, to be here,
Yet we may not remain;
But since thou bidst us leave the mount,
Come with us to the plain.

Opening Prayer

○ Lord, we call to you: come to us quickly.

Hear us when we cry to you.

Let our prayers rise up before you like incense.

Let our lifted hands be like an evening sacrifice.

**Faithful one,
whose word is life:
come with saving power
to free our praise,
inspire our prayer
and shape our lives
for the kingdom of your Son,
Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.**

○ Lord, we call to you: come to us quickly.

Hear us when we cry to you.

Let our prayers rise up before you like incense.

Let our lifted hands be like an evening sacrifice.

Psalm 2:1-11

1. Why do the heathen so furiously rage together : and why do the people imagine a vain thing?
2. The kings of the earth stand up, and the rulers take counsel together : against the Lord, and against his Anointed:
3. Let us break their bonds asunder : and cast away their cords from us.
4. He that dwelleth in heaven shall laugh them to scorn : the Lord shall have them in derision.
5. Then shall he speak unto them in his wrath : and vex them in his sore displeasure:
6. Yet have I set my King : upon my holy hill of Sion.
7. I will preach the law : whereof the Lord hath said unto me, Thou art my Son, this day have I begotten thee.
8. Desire of me, and I shall give thee the nations for thine inheritance, : and the utmost parts of the earth for thy possession.
9. Thou shalt bruise them with a rod of iron : and break them in pieces like a potter's vessel.
10. Be wise now therefore, O ye kings : be learned, ye that are judges of the earth.
11. Serve the Lord in fear : and rejoice unto him with reverence.

Readings

I Kings 19:1-16

II Peter 1:16-end

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Praise

Blessed are you, Lord our God, King of the universe.

To you be glory and praise for ever.

From the rising of the sun to its setting
your name is proclaimed in all the world.

To you be glory and praise for ever.

When the time had fully come
you sent the Sun of Righteousness.

In him the fullness of your glory dwells.

To you be glory and praise for ever.

Thought for the Day

HYMN: I WILL CLIMB THE HOLY MOUNTAIN

1. I will climb the holy mountain
In the sunrise of my wonder;
I will see the crystal heavens,
I will hear the voice of thunder,
I will seek the living God:

*In his shadow I will linger;
I will bear the stones of promise,
The commandments of his finger -
I will seek the living God.*

2. I will rest upon the mountain
In the noontide of my story;
I will see the one I follow
In the uncreated glory
Of the true and living God:

*With his prophets I'll confess him;
I will hear the voice of heaven.
At the altar I will bless him,
Christ, the true and living God.*

3. I will leave the holy mountain
In the silence of its vision;
I shall greet the rocky pathway
To the valley of decision
And the passion of my God.

*With the drawing of this mystery
And the voices of my calling
I will face the cross of history
In the passion of my God.*

© Angela Tilby, 1997 May be sung to 'Westhumble' or 'Wild Mountain Thyme', from 'Sunday by Sunday 26, CCL
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Prayers

We pray to the Lord:
In faith we pray.

We pray to you our God.

That the rest of this day may be holy,
peaceful and full of your presence;
In faith we pray.

We pray to you our God.

That the work we have done and the people we have met today
may bring us closer to you;
In faith we pray.

We pray to you our God.

That we may hear and respond to your call to peace and justice;
In faith we pray.

We pray to you our God.

That you will sustain the faith and hope of those who are lonely,
oppressed and anxious;
In faith we pray.

We pray to you our God.

That you will strengthen us in your service,
and fill our hearts with longing for your kingdom;
In faith we pray.

We pray to you our God.

Space for reflection, other prayers, etc.

God of mercy,
**you know us and love us
and hear our prayer:
keep us in the eternal fellowship of Jesus Christ our Saviour.
Amen.**

The Collect

Holy God,
**you know the disorder of our sinful lives:
set straight our crooked hearts,
and bend our wills to love your goodness
and your glory
in Jesus Christ our Lord.
AMEN.**

(CW Alt, I Before Lent)

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 trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation;
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the Kingdom,
the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever.
AMEN.**

Conclusion

HYMN: SWIFTLY PASS THE CLOUDS OF GLORY

1. Swiftly pass the clouds of glory,
heaven's voice, the dazzling light;
Moses and Elijah vanish –
Christ alone commands the height!
2. Peter, James and John fall silent,
turning from the summit's rise
downward toward the shadowed valley
where their Lord has fixed his eyes.
3. Glimpsed and gone the revelation –
they shall gain and keep its truth
not by building on the mountain
any shrine or sacred booth.
4. But by following the Saviour
through the valley to the cross
and by testing faith's resilience
through betrayal, pain and loss.
5. Lord, transfigure our perception
with the purest light that shines
and recast our life's intentions
to the shape of your designs.

6. Till we seek no other glory
than what lies past Calvary's hill
and our living and our dying
and our rising by your will.

Thomas H Troeger (born 1945), © Oxford University Press (T. Stuttgart)

Final Prayer

In darkness and in light,
in trouble and in joy,
help us, heavenly Father,
to trust your love,
to serve your purpose,
and to praise your name;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Sending Out

Jesus Christ is the light of the world:
a light no darkness can quench.

Stay with us, Lord, for it is evening:
and the day is almost over.

The darkness is not dark to you:
the night is as bright as the day.

Let your light scatter the darkness:
and fill your church with your glory. Amen.

The Blessing

Let us go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
In the name of Christ. AMEN.