

Sunday Worship Service – February 15, 2026

Transfiguration Sunday

Hymns are from ELWB

Welcome

Land Acknowledgement & Welcome Statement

Introduction to Transfiguration Sunday

Today is known as Transfiguration Sunday because the readings focus on God's blazing light shining for Moses on Mount Sinai and Jesus' transformation on the mountain. In both cases, an unforgettable vision will help God's people find strength to endure future trials. This reminds us that God blesses us with high points in life, to help us bear the lows.

Thanksgiving for Baptism ¹

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, the fountain of living water, the rock who gave us birth, our light and our salvation. **Amen.**

People of God, in the baptismal waters we travel with Christ from death to life. Our past, our failure, our doubt, and our shame are drowned and gone here. **You, O God, wash us clean.**

Our fear, our confusion, our self-righteousness, our despair – ALL are washed away by grace. **You, O God, wash us clean.**

Our pride, our hypocrisy, and other people's opinions of us no longer have the power to define us. **You, O God, give us new life.**

The Spirit lives and moves through us now, a great and joyful mystery, so we may bring love and mercy into the world as the body of Christ.

You, O God, give us new life.

Rejoice that God has claimed us in this baptismal grace, not by our own doing or believing but by God's mercy alone. **You, O God, give us new life.**

And so, as we begin worship, we give thanks to God for the gracious gift of baptism that joins us together in Christ by the Spirit's power. Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness.

¹ adapted by Pastor Jess Harren from original words by Pastor Michael Coffey.

<https://pastorjess.com/congregational-renewal-stories-and-resources/thanksgiving-for-baptism>

We praise you for the gift of new life in Jesus Christ. To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. Amen.

#832 Gathering Hymn "*My Lord of Light*"

1. **My Lord of light who made the worlds, in wisdom you have spoken; but those who heard your wise commands your holy law have broken.**
2. **My Lord of love who knew no sin, a sinner's death enduring: for us you wore a crown of thorns, a crown of life securing.**
3. **My Lord of life who came in fire when Christ was high ascended: your burning love is now released, our days of fear are ended.**
4. **My Lord of lords, one Trinity, to your pure name be given all glory now and evermore, all praise in earth and heaven.**

Greeting

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

Call to Worship

Climb the mountain of God and wait . . .

wait for God's glory, which shines like the sun.

We will climb the mountain of God and wait for the dawn.

Climb the mountain of God and wait . . . wait to see Jesus as he truly is.

We will climb the mountain of God and wait for Christ to reveal the heart of God.

Climb the mountain of God and wait . . .

wait to gain courage for the terror of the night.

We will climb the mountain of God and wait for the Spirit to dispel the darkness.

Climb the mountain of God and wait . . . wait to behold God's glory.

We will climb the mountain of God and wait to see God's light shining like the sun.

Prayer of the Day

Light of God, shine upon us in this hour. We come to you as we are, in our strength and in our weakness. Bless our world, in all its beauty and its

pain, with your Spirit's redeeming power. As you transfigured Jesus on a mountaintop, transform us as we worship you today. Touch us with the presence of your Spirit, that we may shine Christ's light into a world longing for peace. Amen.

First Reading: Exodus 24:12-18

In the first reading from the book of Exodus we hear that Moses at Mount Sinai, experienced the presence of God for forty days and forty nights. The "glory of God" settled on the mountain, and on the seventh day God called out to Moses. On the mountain God gave Moses the stone tablets inscribed with the ten commandments.

A reading from Exodus the 24th chapter:

God said to Moses, "Come up to me on the mountain and wait there. I'll give you the stone tablets with the instructions and the commandments that I've written in order to teach them."

So Moses and his assistant Joshua got up, and Moses went up God's mountain. Moses had said to the elders, "Wait for us here until we come back to you. Aaron and Hur will be here with you. Whoever has a legal dispute may go to them."

Then Moses went up the mountain, and the cloud covered the mountain. God's glorious presence settled on Mount Sinai, and the cloud covered it for six days. On the seventh day God called to Moses from the cloud. To the Israelites, God's glorious presence looked like a blazing fire on top of the mountain. Moses entered the cloud and went up the mountain. Moses stayed on the mountain for forty days and forty nights.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

Second Reading: 2 Peter 1:16-21

In the readings from 2nd Peter, we hear about God's voice heard at the transfiguration, declaring Jesus to be the beloved Son. By the activity of the Holy Spirit, God's voice continues to be heard through the word of scripture.

A reading from 2 Peter the 1st chapter:

We didn't repeat crafty myths when we told you about the powerful coming of Jesus Christ. Quite the contrary, we witnessed Jesus' majesty with our own eyes. For Jesus received honor and glory from God when a voice came to him from the magnificent glory, saying, "This is my dearly Beloved, with whom I am well-pleased." We ourselves heard this voice from heaven while we were with Jesus on the holy mountain. In addition, we have a most reliable prophetic word, and you would do well to pay attention to it, just as you would to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts. Most important, you must know that no prophecy of scripture represents the prophet's own understanding of things, because no prophecy ever came by human will. Instead, people led by the Holy Spirit spoke from God.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

#514 Gospel Acclamation Hymn "O Word of God Incarnate" (v.1)

- 1. O Word of God incarnate, O Wisdom from on high,
O Truth unchanged, unchanging, O Light of our dark sky:
we praise you for the radiance that from the hallowed page,
a lantern to our footsteps, shines on from age to age.**

Gospel Reading: Matthew 17:1-9

In the gospel reading from Matthew, Jesus is revealed to Peter, James, and John in a mountaintop experience of divine glory called the transfiguration. This happens shortly before Jesus enters Jerusalem, where he will be crucified.

The holy gospel according to Matthew, the 17th chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Six days later Jesus took Peter, James, and John his brother, and brought them to the top of a very high mountain. Jesus was transformed in front of

them. Jesus' face shone like the sun, and his clothes became as radiant as light.

Moses and Elijah appeared to them, talking with Jesus. Peter reacted to all of this by saying to Jesus, "Lord, it's good that we're here. If you want, I'll make three shrines: one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah."

Peter was still speaking when suddenly a bright cloud overshadowed them. A voice from the cloud said, "This is my Beloved on whom my favour rests. Listen to him!" Hearing this, the disciples fell on their faces, filled with awe.

But Jesus came and touched them. "Get up," he said. "Don't be afraid." When they looked up, they saw no one except Jesus.

As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus commanded them, "Don't tell anybody about the vision until the Human One is raised from the dead."

The gospel of our Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon

#315 Hymn of the Day "How Good, Lord, to Be Here" (v.1-3, 5)

- 1. How good, Lord, to be here! Your glory fills the night;
your face and garments, like the sun, shine with unborrowed light.**
- 2. How good, Lord, to be here, your beauty to behold
where Moses and Elijah stand, your messengers of old.**
- 3. Fulfiller of the past and hope of things to be,
we hail your body glorified and our redemption see.**
- 5. How good, Lord, to be here! Yet we may not remain;
but since you bid us leave the mount, come with us to the plain.**

Affirmation of Faith²

**As followers of Jesus Christ, living in this world—
which some seek to control, and others view with despair—
we declare with joy and trust: our world belongs to God!
From the beginning, through all the crises of our times,
until God's kingdom fully comes, God keeps covenant forever.**

² Adapted from "Our World Belongs to God," articles 1, 2, 6. Posted on the [Calvin Institute for Christian Worship](#) website.

**Our world belongs to God! Let the earth be glad!
 The Spirit is at work, renewing creation.
 We rejoice in the goodness of God, renounce the works of darkness,
 and dedicate ourselves to holy living and loving.
 As covenant partners, called to faithful obedience,
 and set free for joyful praise,
 we offer our hearts and lives to do God's work in God's world.
 And we are confident that the light which shines in the present darkness
 will fill the earth. Our world belongs to God.**

Prayers of Intercession

Sharing of the Peace

Offering

Source of light and love, all things belong to you. You generously share with us the blessings of home, food, friends, and life itself. Receive this portion of what you have given us. May our gifts and joyful service strengthen your church, that we may share good news and compassion with those in need. Amen.

Great Thanksgiving³

May the transfigured Christ be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts to the light and love of God.

We lift them to the One who fills and surrounds us with light and love.

Let us give thanks to the One
 who shines light and love in us and through us.

It is right to give our thanks and praise to the Love and Light of our lives.

Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

³ Written by Rev Lynn Robertson, February 12, 2026.

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
 your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.
 Give us today our daily bread.
 Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.
 Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.
 For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever.
 Amen.**

Communion Distribution

#838 Communion Hymn *"Beautiful Saviour"*

1. **Beautiful Savior! King of creation! Son of God and Son of Man!
 Truly I'd love thee, truly I'd serve thee, light of my soul, my joy, my crown.**
2. **Fair are the meadows, fair are the woodlands,
 robed in flow'rs of blooming spring;
 Jesus is fairer, Jesus is purer, he makes our sorrowing spirit sing.**
3. **Fair is the sunshine, fair is the moonlight bright the sparkling stars on high;
 Jesus shines brighter, Jesus shines purer; than all the angels in the sky.**
4. **Beautiful Savior, Lord of the nations, Son of God and Son of Man!
 Glory and honor, praise, adoration, now and forevermore be thine!**

Communion Blessing

Prayer after communion⁴

Radiant God, we have seen your glory in the face of Jesus Christ.
 Through this sacrament of love and forgiveness you have drawn us to your
 heart. Send us from this table with delight, that our lives may reflect the
 beauty of your love, and bear witness to all we have seen and heard,
 through Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Announcements

Blessing

⁴ Adapted from <https://members.sundaysandseasons.com/Home/TextsAndResources#texts>

#318 Sending Hymn “Alleluia, Song of Gladness!”

1. Alleluia, song of gladness, voice of joy that cannot die;
alleluia is the anthem ever dear to choirs on high;
in the house of God abiding thus they sing eternally.
2. Alleluia you are sounding, true Jerusalem and free;
alleluia, joyful mother, bring us to your jubilee;
here by Babylon’s sad waters mourning exiles still are we.
3. Alleluia cannot always be our song while here below;
alleluia our transgressions make us for a while forego;
for the solemn time is coming when our tears for sin must flow.
4. In our hymns we pray with longing, grant us, blessed Trinity,
at the last to keep glad Easter with the faithful saints on high;
there to you forever singing alleluia joyfully.

Sending

Go in peace, to love and serve God through word and deed.

Thanks be to God!

Sources: Bible passages (except where otherwise indicated) from Common English Bible (CEB).