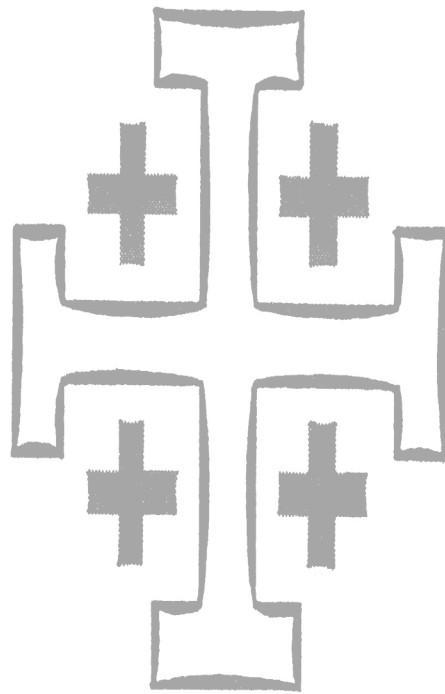


FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH  
RALEIGH, NC

ORGANIZED MARCH 8, 1812



February 14, 2021

THE CHURCH IN WORSHIP  
TRANSFIGURATION SUNDAY

February 14, 2021

Eleven o'clock

About our Worship: Today is Transfiguration Sunday, the day we remember the story about the experience three disciples had on a mountain with Jesus wherein he was transfigured and a voice spoke to them from a cloud. It is the last Sunday before Lent begins, a last glimpse of the coming glory before a season of penitence and reflection as we follow Jesus on his journey to the cross. We begin worship with a psalm that points to the majesty of God. We sing hymns that reflect the themes of the transfiguration narrative — themes of light and glory, mystery and awe. We hear texts which speak of these very same themes, including Mark's transfiguration account. The sermon explores the primary purpose of the transfiguration experience for the disciples — to get them to listen to what God is trying to say in and through the life and ministry of Jesus. God pulls out all the whistles and bells to get them to listen to Jesus for one simple reason — they haven't been listening to him thus far. Sometimes God speaks through the still small voice. Sometimes God has to shout for us to hear. The beautiful musical response invites us to tune our hearts to hear better so that God does not have to shout.

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GATHERING FOR WORSHIP

The Greeting of Worshipers

The Prelude

“O God of Life's Great Mystery”  
Sue Crocker, organ

Kenneth Koesche

The Trinity Chimes

*Three chimes are sounded, awakening us to the presence of God, alerting us to the voice of Christ, centering us in the embrace of the Spirit. As we gather, we present ourselves “as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is our spiritual worship.”*

The Call to Worship (responsive)

from Psalm 50

LEADER: The mighty one, God the Lord, speaks and summons the earth from the rising of the sun to its setting.

PEOPLE: **Out of Zion, the perfection of beauty, God shines forth.**

LEADER: Our God comes and does not keep silence, before the Lord is a devouring fire, and a mighty tempest all around.

PEOPLE: **God calls to the heavens above and to the earth, to judge the people:**

LEADER: “Gather to me my faithful ones, who made a covenant with me by sacrifice!”

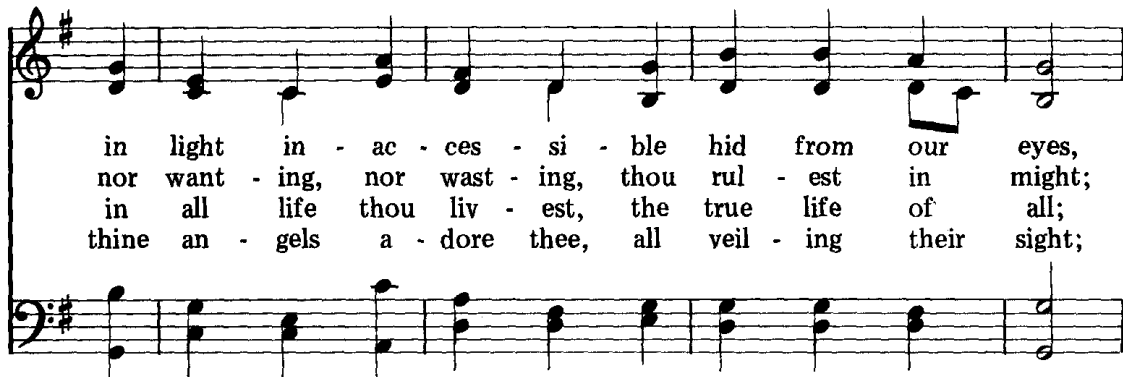
PEOPLE: **The heavens declare God's righteousness, for the Lord is judge.**

The Invocation

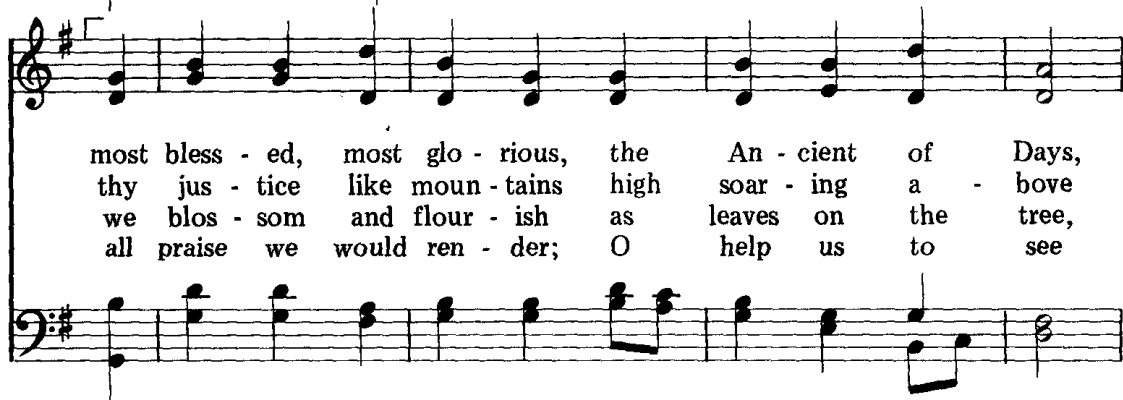
Lynn Lingafelt



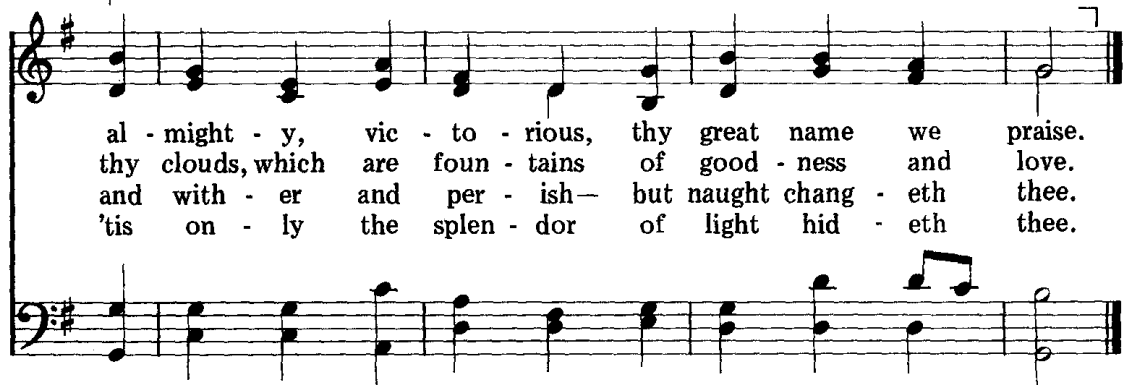
1. Im - mor - tal, in - vis - i - ble, God on - ly wise,  
 2. Un - rest - ing, un - hast - ing, and si - lent as light,  
 3. To all life thou giv - est, to both great and small;  
 4. Great Fa - ther of glo - ry, pure Fa - ther of light,



in light in - ac - ces - si - ble hid from our eyes,  
 nor want - ing, nor wast - ing, thou rul - est in might;  
 in all life thou liv - est, the true life of all;  
 thine an - gels a - dore thee, all veil - ing their sight;



most bless - ed, most glo - rious, the An - cient of Days,  
 thy jus - tice like moun - tains high soar - ing a - bove  
 we blos - som and flour - ish as leaves on the tree,  
 all praise we would ren - der; O help us to see



al - might - y, vic - to - rious, thy great name we praise.  
 thy clouds, which are foun - tains of good - ness and love.  
 and with - er and per - ish— but naught chang - eth thee.  
 'tis on - ly the splen - dor of light hid - eth thee.

## LISTENING FOR GOD'S WORD

The Hebrew Bible

2 Kings 2:1-12

Leah Reed

<sup>1</sup>Now when the Lord was about to take Elijah up to heaven by a whirlwind, Elijah and Elisha were on their way from Gilgal. <sup>2</sup>Elijah said to Elisha, "Stay here; for the Lord has sent me as far as Bethel." But Elisha said, "As the Lord lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So they went down to Bethel. <sup>3</sup>The company of prophets who were in Bethel came out to Elisha, and said to him, "Do you know that today the Lord will take your master away from you?" And he said, "Yes, I know; keep silent." <sup>4</sup>Elijah said to him, "Elisha, stay here; for the Lord has sent me to Jericho." But he said, "As the Lord lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So they came to Jericho. <sup>5</sup>The company of prophets who were at Jericho drew near to Elisha, and said to him, "Do you know that today the Lord will take your master away from you?" And he answered, "Yes, I know; be silent." <sup>6</sup>Then Elijah said to him, "Stay here; for the Lord has sent me to the Jordan." But he said, "As the Lord lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So the two of them went on. <sup>7</sup>Fifty men of the company of prophets also went, and stood at some distance from them, as they both were standing by the Jordan. <sup>8</sup>Then Elijah took his mantle and rolled it up, and struck the water; the water was parted to the one side and to the other, until the two of them crossed on dry ground.

<sup>9</sup>When they had crossed, Elijah said to Elisha, "Tell me what I may do for you, before I am taken from you." Elisha said, "Please let me inherit a double share of your spirit." <sup>10</sup>He responded, "You have asked a hard thing; yet, if you see me as I am being taken from you, it will be granted you; if not, it will not." <sup>11</sup>As they continued walking and talking, a chariot of fire and horses of fire separated the two of them, and Elijah ascended in a whirlwind into heaven. <sup>12</sup>Elisha kept watching and crying out, "Father, father! The chariots of Israel and its horsemen!" But when he could no longer see him, he grasped his own clothes and tore them in two pieces.

LEADER: This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: **Thanks be to God.**

The Christian Testament

2 Corinthians 4:3-6

<sup>3</sup>And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. <sup>4</sup>In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. <sup>5</sup>For we do not proclaim ourselves; we proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and ourselves as your slaves for Jesus' sake. <sup>6</sup>For 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.

LEADER: This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: **Thanks be to God**

## 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.  
 Lead us not into temptation  
 but deliver us from evil.  
 For thine is the kingdom, and the power,  
 and the glory, forever. Amen.**

## The Gospel

Mark 9:2-9

<sup>2</sup>Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and John, and led them up a high mountain apart, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, <sup>3</sup>and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no one on earth could bleach them. <sup>4</sup>And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses, who were talking with Jesus. <sup>5</sup>Then Peter said to Jesus, "Rabbi, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." <sup>6</sup>He did not know what to say, for they were terrified. <sup>7</sup>Then a cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud there came a voice, "This is my Son, the Beloved; listen to him!" <sup>8</sup>Suddenly when they looked around, they saw no one with them any more, but only Jesus.

<sup>9</sup>As they were coming down the mountain, he ordered them to tell no one about what they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead.

LEADER: This is the Gospel of Christ.

PEOPLE: **Praise be to you, O Christ.**

## The Hymn of Devotion

"We Have Come at Christ's Own Bidding"†

BEECHER

**We have come at Christ's own bidding to this high and holy place,  
 where we wait with hope and longing for some token of God's grace.  
 Here we pray for new assurance that our faith is not in vain,  
 searching like those first disciples for a sign both clear and plain.**

**Light breaks through our clouds and shadows, splendor bathes the flesh-joined Word,  
 Moses and Elijah marvel as the heavenly voice is heard.**

**Eyes and hearts behold with wonder how the Law and Prophets meet:  
 Christ, with garments drenched in brightness, stands transfigured and complete.**

**Strengthened by this glimpse of glory, fearful lest our faith decline,  
 we, like Peter, find it tempting to remain and build a shrine.  
 But true worship gives us courage to proclaim what we profess,  
 that our daily lives may prove us people of the God we bless.**

## The Sermon

"Sometimes God Has to Shout"

Christopher Chapman

RESPONDING IN FAITH

The Musical Response

“Tune My Heart, Lord”  
Emma Tyndall, soprano

James Brighton

DEPARTING TO SERVE

The Benediction

The Chimes

*Three chimes are sounded, sending us into the world with the love of God, the Good News of Jesus Christ, and the power of the Holy Spirit. As you go, remember, “you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God’s own people.”*

The Postlude

“Glory Be to God in the Highest”  
Sue Crocker, organ

Johann Walther

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The tune and text of “Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise” are in the public domain.

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Sympathy to **Opal Elmore** on the February 7 death of her brother, Kermit Elmore, and to **Janelle Newsome** on the February 9 death of her son Lee.

Our annual stewardship emphasis continues with the theme *In the wilderness prepare a way for the Lord... And the glory of the Lord shall be revealed*. Please help us to meet our budget goal by returning your pledge card to the church office (you may also pledge online at: <https://fbcraleigh.org/pledgecard/>). As of February 11, we have received 174 pledges totaling \$1,133,541 for the 2021 budget.

Global Missions Offering supports CBF personnel around the world as they spread the Gospel. Please prayerfully consider your support of these missionaries. As of February 11, we have received \$14,425.

## **Calendar Highlights • February 14–20, 2021**

### Sunday, February 14

- 10:00 6th Grade Sunday School (Virtual)
- 7th and 8th Grade Sunday School (Zoom)
- High School Sunday School (Zoom/In-person TBD)
- 11:00 Virtual Worship Service (YouTube)
- 2:00 3rd–5th Grade Sunday School (Zoom)
- 3:00 Minister of Music Search Committee Meeting (Zoom)
- 4:00 1st and 2nd Grade Sunday School (Zoom)
- Three-year-olds–Kindergarten Sunday School (Zoom)
- 6:30 Youth Group (Zoom)

### Monday, February 15

- 11:30–1:30 Pick Up Ashes and Lenten Devotionals (Church Parking Lot)

### Tuesday, February 16

- 10:00 Ministerial Staff Meeting (Library or Zoom)
- 4:00–6:00 Pick Up Ashes and Lenten Devotionals (Church Parking Lot)
- 6:00 Theology on Tap (Zoom/In-person TBD)
- 6:30 High School Boys Bible Study (Carter home)
- High School Girls Bible Study (Helms home)
- Middle School Gathering (Ellis home)
- 7:30 Pathfinders Sunday School (Zoom)

### Wednesday, February 17 *Ash Wednesday*

- 6:30 Ash Wednesday Service (YouTube)

### Thursday, February 18

- 7:00 Band of Brothers (Zoom)
- 7:30 College Gathering (Zoom)