February 27, 2022 Sanctuary Worship, 11:00AM

Welcome to worship today! Please remember to follow the directions of our ushers and wear appropriate facemasks at all times inside the building.

Prelude

We invite you to enjoy the prelude as a time of quiet reflection, and to individually prepare your hearts for the worship of God.

Call to Worship

Leader: Just a taste of something wonderful, **People: Only a glimpse of something magnificent,** Leader: Just a glimmer of something holy in something so ordinary. **People: Yet, enough to know we are in the presence of God,** Leader: Enough to cause us to stop and stare in awe, **People: Enough to stir our hearts in wonder,** Leader: Enough to set our feet to dancing **People: And to prompt our voices to protest and praise.**

(Homileticsonline.com)

Hymn – We Have Come at Christ's Own Bidding

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.

TFWS 2103. Carl P. Daw, Jr., Rowland H. Prichard; arr. by Ralph Vaughan Williams. © 1988 Hope Publishing Co.



Affirmation of Faith

I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth,

And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord: who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead and buried; the third day he rose from the dead;

he ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

The Apostles' Creed, UMH 881.

Prayer Time & 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, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Choir Anthem – Jesus, on the Mountain Peak

Jesus, on the mountain peak, stands alone in glory blazing. Let us, if we dare to speak, join the saints and angels praising: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Trembling at his feet we saw Moses and Elijah speaking. All the prophets and the Law shout through them their joyful greeting: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Swift the cloud of glory came, God, proclaiming in its thunder, Jesus as the Son by name! Nations, cry aloud in wonder: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Jesus is the chosen One, living hope of ev'ry nation, Hear and heed him, ev'ryone; sing, with earth and all creation, Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia! David Haas, vocal arr. by David Haas and Michael Joncas. © 1986 G.I.A. Publications, Inc..

Scripture Lesson – 2 Corinthians 3: 12-18

So, since we have such a hope, we act with great confidence. We aren't like Moses, who used to put a veil over his face so that the Israelites couldn't watch the end of what was

fading away. But their minds were closed. Right up to the present day the same veil remains when the old covenant is read. The veil is not removed because it is taken away by Christ. Even today, whenever Moses is read, a veil lies over their hearts. But whenever someone turns back to the Lord, the veil is removed. The Lord is the Spirit, and where the Lord's Spirit is, there is freedom. All of us are looking with unveiled faces at the glory of the Lord as if we were looking in a mirror. We are being transformed into that same image from one degree of glory to the next degree of glory. This comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit.

Message – Beyond the Veil

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

Hymn – O Wondrous Sight! O Vision Fair

O wondrous sight! O vision fair of glory that the church shall share, which Christ upon the mountain shows, where brighter than the sun he glows!

From age to age the tale declares how with the three disciples there where Moses and Elijah meet, the Lord holds converse high and sweet.

The law and prophets there have place, two chosen witnesses of grace; the Father's voice from out the cloud proclaims his only Son aloud.

With shining face and bright array, Christ deigns to manifest that day what glory shall be theirs above who joy in God with perfect love.

And faithful hearts are raised on high by this great vision's mystery; for which in joyful strains we raise the voice of prayer, the hymn of praise. *UMH* 258. *Sarum Breviary*, trans. by John Mason Neale; William Knapp.

Blessing & Sending Out

Forward to Share Our Offerings

Out to Share Peace with One Another and On to Serve in the World

What to know this week ...

Remember our **new Sunday worship schedule**: 9:15AM Common Thread, Parking Lot and Patio worship 10:15AM Discipleship 11:00AM Sanctuary Worship

Meeting this week: Children's Council, 6:30PM Monday in Carson Hall

Lent begins on Wednesday, March 2, 6:30: We will worship outside for Ash Wednesday this year so that we may burn ashes together. Worship will take place in the north parking lot (near the playground). You are welcome to gather in cars or on the top of the parking lot and patio. We will have special music with the choir ensemble!

Lent Devotions: Our Lent devotional time this year will be spent in the Upper Room. We ask each family to pick up a copy of the March/April Upper Room this week in worship so that you are ready to begin our daily devotional time! Regular print and large-print copies are available in the lobby, at the entrance to Carson Hall and at the rear of the Sanctuary. A prayer calendar specific to St. James will be on the website and included in our weekly email each week.

Wednesday Worship, 6:30PM We will worship in the North Parking lot and have communion at 6:30 each week of Lent. These 30-minute services will include music, prayer, scripture, message and communion. You are invited to remain in your cars, or to place lawn chairs on the patio!

Food pantry needs this week: hearty soups (like Progresso or Chunky), pasta sauce (in cans or plastic jars), canned corn & canned pinto or black beans, and jelly (plastic containers only). Thanks for your continued support!

New Small Group Opportunity: Kim Lamb and Sandra Horton will offer a 10-week small group session beginning March 16 called The Colossian Way. The Colossian Way curriculum structures conversations about polarizing subjects while building community and connecting with one another in Christ's love. Framed by scripture and prayer, the program helps expose participants to various perspectives through video interviews and includes time to share personal stories in order to facilitate strengthened relationships and to help us see each other as part of the body of Christ. If you are interested in receiving more information and/or signing up, please register at https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f0b49afaa22a75-thecolossian or contact Kim or Sandra.