

Join us on Facebook at “AndrewChapelUMCVA” for Sunday Worship,
Transfiguration Sunday
February 14th at 10:00 a.m.

This Service will also be posted on our webpage at “andrewchapelumc.org”

Here is the Order of Worship for our online worship experience.

[Jesus said] “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and
with all your mind, and with all your strength.”

Mark 12:30

Greeting and Welcome

Note: Today is Transfiguration Sunday, the last Sunday before the season of Lent and Easter. This is an important Sunday, which reminds us how God blesses us with high points in life, to help us bear the lows. Like mountain peaks that attract our eyes and lift up our heads, God’s blazing light shines for Moses on Mount Sinai, and through Jesus at his Transfiguration. In both cases, an unforgettable vision will help God’s sojourners find strength to endure future trials. May the mountaintop of this Sunday enable us to traverse life’s valleys and to proceed with courage as we enter Lent.

Prelude Music

Call to Worship (Based on Psalm 99)

Come, praise the Lord our God, and worship at God’s holy mountain.

For the Lord our God is holy, full of compassion and grace.

When God’s prophets cried out, God answered them, speaking in a pillar of cloud.

Let all God’s people sing praises to God’s great and awesome name.

Mighty God, lover of justice, you establish equity throughout the earth.

Let us worship God from the mountaintops. Let us praise God’s holy name.

Opening Prayer

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.

Opening Hymn of Praise “O Wondrous Sight! O Vision Fair” UMH #258 Words: Sarum Breviary; trans. by John Mason Neale. Music: William Knapp; harm. from Hymns Ancient and Modern. *Reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-733303. All rights reserved. Used with permission under CCLI License #11306163.*

1. 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!

2. 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.

3. 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.

4. 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.

5. 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.

Prayer of Confession

Mighty one of yesterday, today, and tomorrow, do not be silent, but speak, that we may hear.

Speak justice, that we may correct our lawlessness.

Speak righteousness, that we may know your ways.

Speak compassion, that we may know your mercy.

Speak abundance, that we may serve others.

Speak understanding, that we may be peacemakers.

Speak glory, that we may know your Son.

Speak, and we will listen to you.

You promise forgiveness of sins and fullness of grace when we speak our shortcomings.

We speak of mistakes we have made.

We speak of abandoning your ways.

We speak of failures to show compassion and mercy.

We speak of our need for forgiveness.

Mighty one of yesterday, today, and tomorrow, hear our prayer and lead us into fullness of life.
Amen.

Words of Assurance

God will not keep silent, but will gather us in with the tender words: "You are forgiven."

Glory to God! Amen!

Prayers of the People

Hymn "Christ Whose Glory Fills the Skies" UMH #173 Words: Charles Wesley, 1707-1788
Music: J.G. Werner's Choralbuch; harm. by William H. Havergal. *Reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-733303. All rights reserved. Used with permission under CCLI License #11306163.*

1. Christ, whose glory fills the skies,
Christ, the true, the only light,
Sun of Righteousness, arise,
triumph o'er the shades of night;
Dayspring from on high, be near;
Daystar, in my heart appear.

2. Dark and cheerless is the morn
unaccompanied by thee;
joyless is the day's return,
till thy mercy's beams I see;
till they inward light impart,
cheer my eyes and warm my heart.

3. Visit then this soul of mine;
pierce the gloom of sin and grief;
fill me, Radiance divine,
scatter all my unbelief;
more and more thyself display,
shining to the perfect day.

Gospel Reading Mark 9:2-9 (NRSV)

² 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, ³ and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no one on earth could bleach them. ⁴ And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses, who were talking with Jesus. ⁵ 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." ⁶ He did not know what to say, for they were terrified. ⁷ Then a cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud there came a voice, "This is my Son, the Beloved; listen to him!" ⁸ Suddenly when they looked around, they saw no one with them any more, but only Jesus.

⁹ 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.

The Word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon "Adventure Stories in the Gospel of Mark: Has Anything Changed?" Rev. Matthew Sergent

Response to the Word (Based on Mark 9)

As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus ordered his disciples to tell no one about what they had seen, for his time was not at hand.

How can we keep silent when we have seen what we have seen and heard what we have heard? Will not the heavens proclaim it? Will not the earth announce such news?

Yes, now is the day and now is the time, for Jesus Christ has died and is raised in glory.

Shout it to the highest mountain and announce it in the lowest valley: Jesus Christ, the glory of God, the Son of righteousness, the Prince of Peace, is here!

Hymn "I Stand Amazed in the Presence" UMH #371. Words: Charles H. Gabriel. Music: Charles H. Gabriel. *Reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-733303. All rights reserved. Used with permission under CCLI License #11306163.*

1. I stand amazed in the presence
of Jesus the Nazarene,
and wonder how he could love me,
a sinner, condemned, unclean.

Refrain:

How marvelous! How wonderful!
And my song shall ever be:
How marvelous! How wonderful
is my Savior's love for me!

2. For me it was in the garden
he prayed: "Not my will, but thine."
He had no tears for his own griefs,
but sweat-drops of blood for mine.
(Refrain)

3. In pity angels beheld him,
and came from the world of light
to comfort him in the sorrows
he bore for my soul that night.
(Refrain)

4. He took my sins and my sorrows,
he made them his very own;
he bore the burden to Calvary,
and suffered and died alone.
(Refrain)

5. When with the ransomed in glory
his face I at last shall see,
'twill be my joy through the ages
to sing of his love for me.
(Refrain)

Dismissal with Blessing

Go forth to climb the mountain of God.

We will walk in the light and truth of God.

Go forth and listen to the voice that calls from heaven.

We will heed the call to follow Jesus.

Go forth to shine the light of Christ in the world.

We will live as lamps shining in the darkness.

Go with God.

Postlude