



FIRST CONGREGATIONAL UCC

GATHERED TO SHARE GOD'S LOVE



FEBRUARY 26, 2017
TRANSFIGURATION SUNDAY

Welcome

Please silence cell phones upon entering the sanctuary.

Children in Worship

Infants and children bring life to our worship and are always welcome. Worship Activity Bags for children are located at the back of the church: teal bags for 2-5 years, navy blue for 6-10 years.

Sunday School

Preschool through adult Sunday morning learning is offered during the 9 o'clock hour. FCC is committed to the faith formation of all, so join us for weekly Sunday School in the Christian Education wing located on the lower level.

Sunday Brunch

Please join us for fellowship after worship in the Son Cafe after worship. Today's menu: Eggs with cheese, hash browns, sausage casserole, fruit, toaster items. Good coffee and even better conversation is always on the menu!

Interested in Membership?

Contact Pastor Craig, (309)-762-0787 or by email craig@fccmoline.org.

Wi-Fi Password

Welcome!

Resources

Ushers can provide large print bulletins and hearing amplifiers.

Getting connected

Please fill our pew pads to offer us a record of your attendance.

Today
from the life
of the church

Transfiguration is a noun, defined as: "A complete change of form or appearance into a more beautiful or spiritual state."

'in this light the junk undergoes a transfiguration; it shines'

Transfiguration is also a church term used to describe the appearing of the Lord in glory during his earthly life and related in the first three gospels; Matthew 17:1-13; Mark 9:2-13; and Luke 9:28-36, and alluded to in 2 Peter 1:16-18. The vision of the Lord, transfigured, with Moses and Elijah, was witnessed by Peter, James and John and is described by the gospel writers as an historic event, with striking agreement as to the main outline and understandable differences in the details. The event was significant as showing the testimony of the Law and Prophets to the Messiahship of Jesus, as furnishing a further proclamation of Jesus as God's son, and a foreshadowing his future glory. The feast of the Transfiguration was traditionally on August 6, and has been brought to the last Sunday of Epiphany in the modern lectionary.

Gathering of God's People

PRELUDE

Adagio by Leo Boellmann

GREETING AND WELCOME

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

And also with you.

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Jesus took with him Peter,
James and John and led them up a high mountain, by themselves.

**And he was transfigured before them,
and his face shone like the sun,
and his clothes became dazzling white.**

Suddenly a bright cloud overshadowed them,
and from the cloud a voice said,

“This is my Son, the Beloved; with him I am well pleased; listen to him!”

**And when they looked up,
they saw no one except Jesus himself alone.**

***OPENING PRAYER**

Let us pray. **Almighty God, on the mountain you showed your glory in the transfiguration of your child Jesus. Give us the vision to see beyond the turmoil of our world and to behold the Sovereign in great glory; through Jesus Christ our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, One God, now and forever. Amen.**

***HYMN**

#75, *O Wondrous Sight, O Vision Fair*

***CALL TO CONFESSION**

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Most merciful God, **we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and follow in your ways, to the glory of your name. Amen.**

***DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS**

***SONG OF PRAISE** *Gloria*

The musical notation is written on two staves in treble clef. The first staff contains the melody for the first line of lyrics: "Glo - ri - a, glo - ri - a, in ex - cel - sis De - o!". The second staff contains the melody for the second line of lyrics: "Glo - ri - a, glo - ri - a, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!". There are triplets and a quartet indicated above the notes in the second staff.

Glo - ri - a, glo - ri - a, in ex - cel - sis De - o!

Glo - ri - a, glo - ri - a, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

***PASSING THE PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.

CHILDREN'S TIME

Rev. Michael Swartz

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Proclaiming the Good News

SCRIPTURE

EXODUS 24: 12-18

A reading from Exodus.

The Lord said to Moses, “Come up to me on the mountain, and wait there; and I will give you the tablets of stone, with the law and the commandment, which I have written for their instruction.” So Moses set out with his assistant Joshua, and Moses went up into the mountain of God. To the elders he had said, “Wait here for us, until we come to you again; for Aaron and Hur are with you; whoever has a dispute may go to them.”

Then Moses went up on the mountain, and the cloud covered the mountain. The glory of the Lord settled on Mount Sinai, and the cloud covered it for six days; on the seventh day he called to Moses out of the cloud. Now the appearance of the glory of the Lord was like a devouring fire on the top of the mountain in the sight of the people of Israel. Moses entered the cloud, and went up on the mountain. Moses was on the mountain for forty days and forty nights.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 99

The Lord is king; let the people tremble.

**The Lord is enthroned upon the cherubim;
let the earth shake.**

The Lord, great in Zion,

is high above all peoples.

Let them confess God's name, which is great and awesome;

God is the Holy One.

O mighty king, lover of justice, you have established equity;

you have executed justice and righteousness in Jacob.

Proclaim the greatness of the Lord and fall down before God's footstool;

God is the Holy One.

Moses and Aaron among your priests,

and Samuel among those who call upon your name, O Lord;

they kept your testimonies and the decree that you have them.

O Lord our God, you answered them indeed;

**you were a God who forgave them,
yet punished them for their evil deeds.**

Proclaim the greatness of the Lord and worship upon God's holy hill;

for the Lord our God is the Holy One.

READING

2 PETER 1: 16-21

A reading from 2 Peter.

For we did not follow cleverly devised myths when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we had been eyewitnesses of his majesty. For he received honor and glory from God the Father when that voice was conveyed to him by the Majestic Glory, saying, “This is my Son, my Beloved, with whom I am well pleased.” We ourselves heard this voice come from heaven, while we were with him on the holy mountain.

So we have the prophetic message more fully confirmed. You will do well to be attentive to this as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts. First of all you must understand this, that no prophecy of scripture is a matter of one’s own interpretation, because no prophecy ever came by human will, but men and women moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

Holy Ground, arr. Lloyd Larson

***GOSPEL**

MATTHEW 17: 1-9

A reading from Matthew.

Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became dazzling white. Suddenly there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him. Then Peter said to Jesus, "Lord, it is good for us to be here; if you wish, I will make three dwellings here, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." While he was still speaking, suddenly a bright cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud a voice said, "This is my Son, the Beloved; with him I am well pleased; listen to him!" When the disciples heard this, they fell to the ground and were overcome by fear. But Jesus came and touched them, saying, "Get up and do not be afraid." And when they looked up, they saw no one except Jesus himself alone.

As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus ordered them, "Tell no one about the vision until after the Son of Man has been raised from the dead."

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you O Christ.

SERMON

Rev. Michael Swartz

*HYMN

Give Me Jesus

1. In the morn-ing when I rise, in the morn-ing when I rise, in the
2. Dark mid-night was my cry, dark mid-night was my cry, dark
3. Just a - bout the break of day, just a - bout the break of day, just a -
4. O, when I come to die, O, when I come to die, O,

7 *Refrain*

morn-ing when I rise, give me Je - sus.
mid-night was my cry, give me Je - sus. Give me Je - sus, give me
bout the break of day, give me Je - sus.
when I come to die, give me Je - sus.

Je - sus, you may have all this world, give me Je - sus.

Responding to the Good News

PASTORAL PRAYER

OFFERING OUR GIFTS

INVITATION

OFFERTORY

Meditation by Alexandre Guilmant

*DOXOLOGY

***Praise God From whom all blessings flow,
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.***

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Sending in Mission

***HYMN OF SENDING**

#365, *Jesus Priceless Treasure*

***BLESSING**

***BENEDICTION**

***POSTLUDE**

Menuet Gothique by Leo Boellmann



*The altar flowers are given to the glory of God
and in loving memory of Patricia Pinney Arp
Given by Louis C. Arp III Family*

SERVING TODAY

Ushers

Kathy Harris, Carol Reese, Nancy Keller, Bill Keller, Mary Curry

Lector

Ben Churchill

Liturgist

Allie Maranda

Sound Tech

Bill Henning

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL UCC STAFF

Rev. Craig Jan-McMahon, *Pastor*

Rev. Michael Swartz, *Interim Associate for Pastoral Care*

Maureen Holmes, *Music Coordinator and Chancel Choir Director*

Pablo Gorin, *Interim Organist*

Gail Glockhoff-Long, *Campanella Ringers Director*

Erin Willhite, *Director of Marketing and Communications*

Angie Cleppe, *Online Publications*

Becca Peterson, *Director of Family Ministry*

Sara Otta, *Finance Manager*

Wes Llewellyn, *Fellowship Coordinator*

Evan Thornton, *Office Assistant and Nursery Coordinator*

Wendy Simmon, *Red Wagon Preschool Director*

Mike DeToye and Ron Mahar, *Custodians*



FIRST CONGREGATIONAL

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Gathered to Share God's Love