



**FIRST CONGREGATIONAL UCC LEADER**  
*GATHERED TO SHARE GOD'S LOVE*



**FEBRUARY 11TH, 2018**

**TRANSFIGURATION SUNDAY**

# Welcome

*Please turn off cell phones in 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. We offer childcare in our professionally staffed nursery in our downstairs nursery for children ages infancy through 6 years old.

## **Sunday School**

All are welcome to join us for weekly Sunday School in the Christian Education wing located on the lower level. Preschool through adult Sunday morning learning is offered at 9am.

## **Sunday Brunch**

Join us downstairs after the service in the Son Cafe for good food and fellowship! Today's menu is hash browns, scrambled eggs honey spice spiral cut ham, fruit, toaster items and cookies.

## **Interested in Membership?**

Contact Pastor Craig, call (309)-762-0787 or email [craig@fccmoline.org](mailto: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.

## **Cover Art**

*12th century Italian depiction of the Transfiguration*

*Today*  
from the life  
of the church

And did those feet in ancient time,  
Walk upon England's mountains green:

And was the holy Lamb of God,  
On England's pleasant pastures seen!

And did the Countenance Divine,  
Shine forth upon our clouded hills?  
And was Jerusalem builded here,  
Among these dark Satanic Mills?

Bring me my Bow of burning gold;  
Bring me my Arrows of desire:  
Bring me my Spear: O clouds unfold!  
Bring me my Chariot of fire!

I will not cease from Mental Fight,  
Nor shall my Sword sleep in my hand:  
Till we have built Jerusalem,  
In England's green & pleasant Land.

-William Blake

# *Gathering of God's People*

## **PRELUDE**

## **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 and James and John, and led them up a high  
mountain apart, by themselves.

**And Jesus was transfigured before them, and his clothes became  
dazzling white, such as no one on earth could bleach them.**

Then a cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud there came a voice,  
“This is my Son, the Beloved; listen to him!”

**Suddenly when they looked around, they saw no one with them  
any more, but only Jesus.**

## **\*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.**

## **\*OPENING HYMN**

*#75 O Wondrous Sight, O Vision Fair*

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Let us pray. **Loving God, we confess that we have turned from your way to follow our own ways.**

**Forgive us for the times  
we have spoken or acted too quickly;  
we have not spoken or acted at all;  
we have hurt those closest to us;  
we have hurt those we have yet to know;  
we have thought more about ourselves than others,  
we have thought less of ourselves than we ought.  
Turn us around, and give us a fresh start, so that we can live  
again as your children. Amen.**

## DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

Even when we have done wrong, God makes us right. Even when we have messed up, God puts us together. God's love never runs out. God never tires of calling us beloved children. Hear God say to you now: Your sins are forgiven, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Savior.

## \*SONG OF PRAISE

*Gloria*

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

## **PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

Speak to us, O Lord our God, and let the fire of your Spirit burn brightly in our hearts. Open our minds to receive the wisdom of the law, the hope of the prophets, and the life of the gospel: Jesus Christ, your living Word. Amen.

### *Proclaiming the Good News*

#### **SCRIPTURE**

2 KINGS 2:1-12

Now when the Lord was about to take Elijah up to heaven by a whirlwind, Elijah and Elisha were on their way from Gilgal. 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. 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.” 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. 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.” 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. Fifty men of the company of prophets also went, and stood at some distance from them, as they both were standing by the Jordan. 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.

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.” 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.” 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. 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.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **PSALM 50:1-6**

The mighty one, God the Lord, has spoken;

**calling the earth from the rising of the sun to its setting.**

Out of Zion, perfect in its beauty,

**God shines forth in glory.**

Our God will come and will not keep silence;

**with a consuming flame before, and round about a raging storm.**

God calls the heavens and the earth from above

**to witness the judgment of the people.**

“Gather before me my loyal followers,

**those who have made a covenant with me  
and sealed it with sacrifice.”**

The heavens declare the rightness of God’s cause,

**for it is God who is judge.**

## **SCRIPTURE**

2 CORINTHIANS 4:3-6

And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. 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. For we do not proclaim ourselves; we proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and ourselves as your slaves for Jesus’ sake. 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.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **SPECIAL MUSIC**

*Holy Ground*  
arr. Lloyd Larson

**\*GOSPEL**

MARK 9:2-9

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

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 gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you O Christ.**

**SERMON**

Pr. Michael Swartz

**\*HYMN**

*Jerusalem-Next Page*

## *Responding to the Good News*

**PASTORAL PRAYER**

**OFFERING OUR GIFTS**

**INVITATION**

The God who speaks and summons the earth into being now speaks to us, calling us to offer up our lives as a sacrifice of praise.

**OFFERTORY**

**\*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**

Merciful God, receive the gifts we bring, our selves, our time, and our possessions. Through our worship and service unite us as your body, shining with the light of your justice and mercy; for the sake of him who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord.

# Jerusalem

William Blake, circa 1804

Charles Hubert Hastings Parry (1848-1918)

$\text{♩} = 90$

And did those  
feet in an-cient time Walk up-on Eng-land's mount-ains green? And was the  
Ho - ly Lamb of God On Eng-land's plea-sant pas - tures seen? And did the  
coun - te - nance di - vine Shine forth up - on our cloud-ed hills? And was Je -  
ru - sa - lem build-ed here A - mong these dark sa-tan-ic mills?  
Bring me my bow of burn-ing gold! Bring me my  
ar - rows of de - sire! Bring me my spear! O clouds, un - fold! Bring me my  
char - i - ot of fire! I will not cease from men-tal fight, Nor shall my  
sword sleep in my hand, Till we have built Je - ru - sa - lem In Eng-land's  
green and plea-sant land.

## *Sending in Mission*

### **\*HYMN OF SENDING**

*#365 Jesus Priceless Treasure*

### **\*BENEDICTION**

May the Lord bless you and keep you.

May the Lord's face shine upon you and be gracious to you.

May the lord look upon you with favor and give you peace. **Amen**

### **\*POSTLUDE**



*Altar flowers given to the glory of God and  
in loving memory of Janice Louise McCune  
Given by: Allyn C. McCune*

## **SERVING TODAY**

### *Head Usher*

Jim Moorhusen

### *Lector*

Susi Llewellyn

### *Ushers*

Kindergarten

Sunday School class

### *Liturgist*

Mary Newcomb

### *Usher Guides*

Dixie Duckett

Pam Wendt

### *North Door Greeters*

Charles Curry

Mary Curry

### *Sound Tech*

Brian Williams

## **FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH STAFF**

Rev. Craig Jan-McMahon, Senior Pastor

Rev. Michael Swartz, Associate Pastor

Maureen Holmes, Chancel Choir Director

Mason Moss, Interim Organist/Pianist

Gail Glockhoff-Long, Campanella Rings Director

Jennifer Dailing, Office Assistant

Taylor Anderson, Director of Marketing and Communications

Becca Peterson, Director of Family Ministry

Sara Otta, Finance Manager

Wes Llewellyn, Fellowship Coordinator

Harleigh Jones, Nursery Coordinator

Amanda Peterson, Red Wagon Preschool Director

Mike DeToye and Ron Mahar, Custodians



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**UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
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