

Sermon Series

Shine a Light on the Winter Blues

Transfiguration Sunday
February 15, 2026



GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

**please stand as you're able*

PRELUDE

O Savior, Rend the Heavens Wide, arr. J.M. Michel¹

WELCOME

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

One: God has invited us to this moment of meeting.

All: We come together, a community of faith.

One: We share in a covenant of promise and hope.

All: We assemble here, eager to be changed by God.

One: Let us praise God's holy name!

***HYMN 267**

Come, Christians, Join to Sing, Madrid²

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Forgive us, Gracious God, when we stumble in the darkness and turn away from your face. Help us to face the shadows in our lives, our church, our communities, and in our world. We admit our misuse of God's gifts and our deceit. Move us toward your love and light. Strengthen us to walk in your brightness and live in your ways. Help us to leave the safety of what we have known, for Your glorious light. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

***PASSING THE PEACE**

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION HYMN 452 (seated)

Open the Eyes of My Heart, Open The Eyes³

SCRIPTURE

Exodus 24:12-18

WINTER BLUES SPIRITUAL PRACTICE

MINUTE FOR MISSION - Bill Tanke

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE - Amy Poland

After the message, children may go with the teacher to room 11 for Spiritual Adventures.

SCRIPTURE

Matthew 17:1-9

SERMON

God's Holy Light: Transfiguration

***HYMN 190**

*Swiftly Pass the Clouds of Glory, Geneva*⁴

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

CALL FOR THE OFFERING - *Please also pass the friendship form through the row.*

OFFERTORY

*Beautiful Savior, T. Siefkes*⁵

***DOXOLOGY HYMN 607** *Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow, Old Hundredth*⁶
Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise Christ, all people here below;
praise Holy Spirit evermore; praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION, LORD'S PRAYER**

***HYMN 273**

*He Is King of Kings, He Is King*⁷

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

*This Little Light of Mine, arr. M. Hassell*⁸
The postlude is offered as a grateful thanks to God. We invite you to remain seated as we listen together.

Leaders Today:

Interim Pastor: Rev. Sara Tonje

Minister of Music: Joe Chrisman

Ushers/Greeters: Roger Fletcher, Ron Behling, Bob Weber, Kate Fletcher (Deacon)

Liturgist: Linda Moss

AV/Tech: John Tarr/Josh Mou



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WPC ANNOUNCEMENTS

TODAY - Mardi Gras Event!

We invite you to stay after worship for a Mardi Gras celebration. We hope to break the winter blues with a festive celebration. There will be beads, bingo, mask-making, and fun for all ages. A delicious New Orleans style lunch of red beans and rice, catered by the Madison Waldorf School, will be served, and of course king cake. Kick off preparation for Easter with a churchwide writing project! Come celebrate the good news of God and prepare for a faith-building Lent.

John Tonje Care Package

John Tonje, the son of Pastor Sara, was recently traded to the Boston Celtics. We are putting together a small care package. You can contribute! Any congregation members who would like to write a note of encouragement or congratulations to be included in the care package can put them in the marked basket in the Narthex or give them to Meg Beally **on February 15th and February 22nd**. If you would like to send a note but will not be in church the next two Sundays, you can email them to Meg and she will add them to the package. Any questions or electronic notes can be sent to Meg at megbeally@gmail.com.

This Wednesday, February 18 - Ash Wednesday Taize Service, 7:00PM at Westminster.

Sundays: February 22, March 1 & 8 - Book Study with Ed Cothroll: "The Last Week" by Marcus Borg & John D. Crossan. Books are free and available on the table outside of the MJB Lounge.

Journal of the Journey

During Lent the Worship committee will be inviting you to share poetry, prose and pictures for our Easter celebration. Share your unique insights about mission, ministry, scripture, faith and hope. Please plan to participate in this congregation-wide creative endeavor today! Take a text or writing prompt and return your contribution to the editor by Sunday March 8. These real stories, "light bulb moments," mission insights and good news will be your gift to others in the church. The final project will be distributed on Easter.

From Ruth Hein: Building Unity for Nonviolent Action

A coalition of peace, justice, sustainability, and democracy groups, unions, communities of faith and/or conscience, neighbors, and other human groupings uniting to get our community organized, trained, and ready to respond nonviolently to the current cruel and criminal U.S. governmental actions and policies.

Our Goal: Our goals include creating a responsive united nonviolent network of nonviolent action teams that will promote learning about and practicing nonviolent direct action to protest and resist the violence that is being brought to our communities and neighbors. SAVE THE DATES & help: Feb. 20, 21, & 22 - "Call to Action Weekend." For full details and links see the weekly email announcements. There is also a poster on the kiosk in the Narthex, or you can also talk to Ruth Hein to sign up.

IN OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS

Care List: Sally & Vern Forsberg, Jack Hamann, Gloria Hanson

Members & Friends: Ledger Dalton, Bob Goller, Alice Appen

Deacons on Duty - Would you like a visit, food, prayers, help making your house accessible, etc.? Your deacons want to help. Look for the Deacon banner on nametags, or anyone wearing the *Deacon on Duty* button.