

## TRANSFIGURATION SUNDAY

February 15, 2026

Matthew 17:1-9

### Dazzling Reign

The setting sun cast a warm glow against the wooden beams of the Vermont barn where my wedding reception was being held. As candles flickered on the tables, the music for the father daughter dance began playing. My father's eyes glistened when he realized the song chosen for our twirl on the dance floor was from "The Sound of Music." The movie had always been a favorite in our family as Julia Andrews traipsing through the Alps always tugged at my father's Swiss heart.

*Climb every mountain, ford every stream, follow every rainbow until you find your dream.*

In the movie, Mother Superior sings this to young Maria — played by Julia Andrews — who is struggling with God's call in her life. The older nun reminds Maria that following God will always mean going in surprising, new directions. There will be struggles, doubts and tears. But search the high and low, Mother Superior says. Follow the dream that will indeed require "all the love you can give, every day of your life for as long as you live."

The season of Lent is upon us, but before we trudge along with Jesus on the way to the cross, we find ourselves having a mountaintop experience. It is here we join Jesus who takes two of his followers to witness divine glory. Jesus is transfigured in dazzling light and the pillars of the faith, Moses and Elijah, stand with him. Jesus' friends are in awe.

It is an amazing moment meant to renew us for the journey ahead, bolstering our waning faith. But we are not meant to stay on the mountain forever. There is life to be experienced. There are mountains to climb, streams to ford, and rainbows to follow.

I chose this song for my dance with my father because I got married later in life. I was at the point where I thought saying "I do" would never come from my lips. Yet through my setbacks, my father would always encourage me to hang on to faith. Follow your dream. Don't give up.

Lent is beginning. Take one last look at the dazzling glory from your mountaintop view. Now grab hold of God's hand and make your way back down into the world. Give your hopes, dreams and desires to God and, as you do, make sure to give them all the love that they will need for as long as you live.

*God of mountain highs and valley lows, give us the strength and courage to follow You no matter how difficult or disruptive the path might seem. Help us to trust that where You lead us is to the place where the deepest desires of our hearts are found. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.*

(Rev. Donna Frischknecht Jackson is a communications specialist for the United Church of Christ and author of today's Sunday Bulletin.)



8 1/2" x 11" UCC SUNDAY BULLETIN SERVICE

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Bismarck-Mandan Area  
**UNITED CHURCH  
OF CHRIST**



1200 E Highland Acres Rd, Bismarck, ND 58501

701-223-2915 [www.uccbismarck.org](http://www.uccbismarck.org)

February 15, 2026 at 10 AM Worship

**Transfiguration Sunday**

Pastor: Rev. Gretchen Deeg | Liturgist: Mary Blumhagen

Music: Jeanne Kolberg | Video: Jordan VanBerkum

*\*Rise in body or in spirit.*

**\*NO MATTER**

Sing! 35

No matter who, no matter what

No matter where you are on the journey of life;

You're welcome, welcome in this place.

Accepted and welcomed by God's grace.

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

**All: God, meet us in the fog.**

**OPENING PRAYER**

**\*HYMN** O God, Our Help in Ages Past NCH 25 v. 1-4

**SCRIPTURE** Psalm 99

**TIME WITH CHILDREN**

*Children are invited to remain in worship or attend Sunday School after the Offering.*

**OFFERING**

**\*DOXOLOGY**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;

Praise God, all creatures here below;

Praise God above, our heavenly host;

Creator, Savior, Holy Ghost. Amen.

**\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION<sup>1</sup>**

Mothering God, we confess that we often wish to spend all of our time with you on the mountain top, where we are sure of your presence, where we feel connected to you. We confess that when we come down from the mountain, we often fail to go back into the world to be your hands and feet. We struggle to see you in the faces of our neighbors and we are overwhelmed by the brokenness we see in the world. Forgive us when our vision is limited and our actions do not live out our discipleship. In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

**\*GLORIA**

Glory be to the Creator, and to the Christ, and to the Holy Ghost:

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,

World without end. Amen. Amen.

**SCRIPTURE** Exodus 24:12-18

**CHOIR ANTHEM** You Are My God

**SCRIPTURE** Matthew 17:1-9

**SERMON**

**HYMN** All of My Life Sing! 140

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

**\*HYMN** We Have Come at Christ's Own Bidding NCH 182

**\*CARRY GOD'S LOVE**

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Permission to stream the music in this service obtained from **ONE LICENSE**, License #732302-A.

<sup>1</sup> United Methodist Resources & re-worship.blogspot.com



**Thank You for Worshiping with Us!**

Your offerings are essential for the ongoing ministry of this congregation. Donations can be made using this QR code, online at [www.uccbismarck.org/donate](http://www.uccbismarck.org/donate), mailed to the church, or placed in the offering box.



## Sponsored in Celebration

Jeanne and Robert Kolberg are sponsoring this Sunday in honor of their mutual birthdays. They are twins, one month apart, as Jeanne likes to say. Both of them turned 70 this year, and they would like to thank the church for welcoming them so warmly.

*Sponsored by Jean & Robert Kolberg*



If you would like to sponsor a future Sunday, contact the church office at 223-2915 or visit [uccbismarck.org/donate](http://uccbismarck.org/donate). Sponsorships are \$500.

## Lenten Worship Schedule

### Wed, Feb. 18 thru Mar. 25 – Wednesday Worship

6:30 pm Worship (Soup Supper at 5:30pm)

### Sun, Mar. 29 – Palm Sunday

10 am Worship

11 am Pancake Breakfast

3 pm Palm Procession (Trinity Lutheran to ND State Capitol)

4 pm Palm Worship (ND State Capitol steps)

### Thurs, Apr. 2 – Maundy Thursday

6:30 pm Tenebrae w/ choir & orchestra (Soup Supper at 5:30pm)

### Sat, Apr. 4 – Holy Saturday

7 pm Community Easter Vigil at UCC

### Sun, Apr. 5 – Easter Sunday

6:30 am Sunrise worship at Hay Creek, 1144 College Dr

10 am Worship at UCC

11:15 am Easter Egg Hunt at UCC



## Palm Sunday Path - Invite Everyone!

Let's make our first Community Palm Sunday Processional the largest ever by RSVPing to attend and inviting everyone you know to join the procession and worship on March 29! Find more details and RSVP at [www.wndpalmsundaypath.com](http://www.wndpalmsundaypath.com)

## Cooks Needed

Every Wednesday through Lent and on Maundy Thursday we serve a light dinner prior to worship. Sign-up below the bulletin board to bring soup and help with clean-up.

## THIS WEEK'S OPPORTUNITIES: February 15 - 22

<b>Sunday:</b>	11 AM Fellowship & 12 Noon <a href="#">Online</a> Fellowship
<b>Monday:</b>	Church Office Closed
<b>Tuesday:</b>	1 PM Quilting/Knitting 5:30 PM Trustees (in-person & <a href="#">online</a> )
<b>Wednesday:</b>	<b>Ash Wednesday</b> 5:30 PM Soup Supper 6 PM Youth Group & Confirmation 6:30 PM Ash Wednesday Worship 7 PM Choir Practice
<b>Thursday:</b>	6 PM Find You Balance (in-person & <a href="#">online</a> )
<b>Friday:</b>	8:30 AM Bible Study (in-person & <a href="#">online</a> )
<b>Sunday:</b>	10 AM Worship 10:20 AM Sunday School 11 AM Fellowship & 12 Noon <a href="#">Online</a> Fellowship 11:15 AM Abuse Prevention Training 5:15 PM Dine 'n De-Stress (Lucky's 13)

## Dine 'n De-stress - Feb. 22 at 5:15 PM

Stressed out about our divisive political climate and unsure of how to respond? Join for conversations and support as we build connections and community. Held at Lucky's 13 (915 S 3<sup>rd</sup> St, Bis.)

## Abuse Prevention Class - Feb. 22 at 11:15 AM

All are welcome to attend. We will learn how to create a safer environment and how to file a report if there is suspected abuse. Meets in the church basement.

## OUR PRAYER LIST

Gellsia (Chelsea Gagner's daughter), Lynn Bryntesen, Sandy Kirby (Autum's sister), Matthew Nitschke, Family of Sandra (Dan Domagala's mother), Nolan Myles McLemore (Amanda Wilson's grandson), Bonnie Frederick, Kathy Rudolph, Sheyla Munoz (Autum's sister-in-law), Tasha Hausauer (John Sauter's cousin), Hayes & Cooper (Brandon & Tasha Domagala's sons), Diana, Amanda Wilson, Frank Picard, Carla Christenson (Monica Klein's mother), Pam Crawford, Fredrick Krause (Kerri Kraft's grandfather), Leona Staiger (Helen Lindgren's sister), Colby (Janice & Gary Sather's son), Robyn Richter (Kyle Eisenbraun's aunt), Doretta Reule, Howard Etson, Camille Grothier, East Timor, Refugees

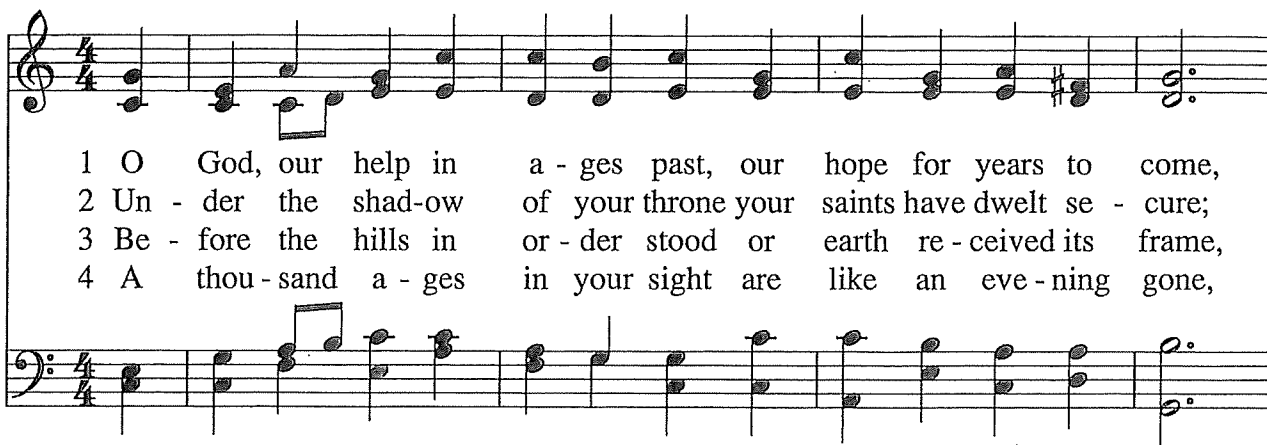
\*Contact the church office to be added to our weekly prayer list.

# O God, Our Help in Ages Past

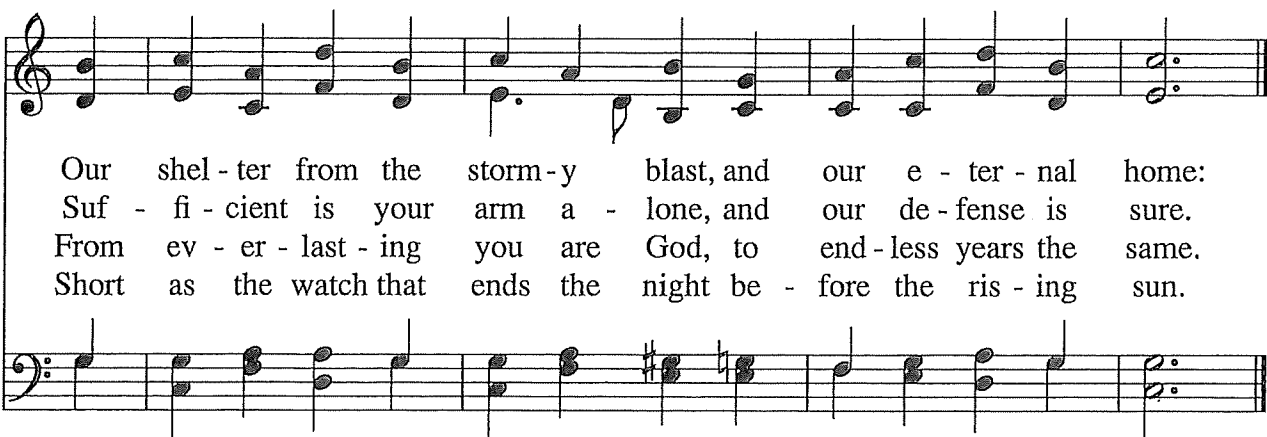
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Isaac Watts, 1719; alt.

Ps. 90:1-2, 4-5



1 O God, our help in a - ges past, our hope for years to come,  
2 Un - der the shad-ow of your throne your saints have dwelt se - cure;  
3 Be - fore the hills in or - der stood or earth re - ceived its frame,  
4 A thou - sand a - ges in your sight are like an eve - ning gone,



Our shel - ter from the storm - y blast, and our e - ter - nal home:  
Suf - fi - cient is your arm a - lone, and our de - fense is sure.  
From ev - er - last - ing you are God, to end - less years the same.  
Short as the watch that ends the night be - fore the ris - ing sun.

5 Time, like an ev - er - roll - ing stream,  
soon bears us all away;  
We fly for - got - ten, as a dream  
fades at the o - pening day.

6 O God, our help in a - ges past,  
our hope for years to come,  
Still be our God while trou - bles last,  
and our e - ter - nal home!

*Watts, minister of a Congregational church in London, wrote theological and philosophical works and hundreds of "hymns of human composure" (everyday language). He augmented the congregational singing of psalms with a new style of hymnody.*

Tune: ST. ANNE C.M.  
William Croft, 1708

## All of My Life

$\text{♩} = 144$

1. All of my life, one thing I long for;—  
 2. In ev - 'ry breath, in ev - 'ry shad - ow,—  
 3. Teach me Your way, O God our Sav - ior.—

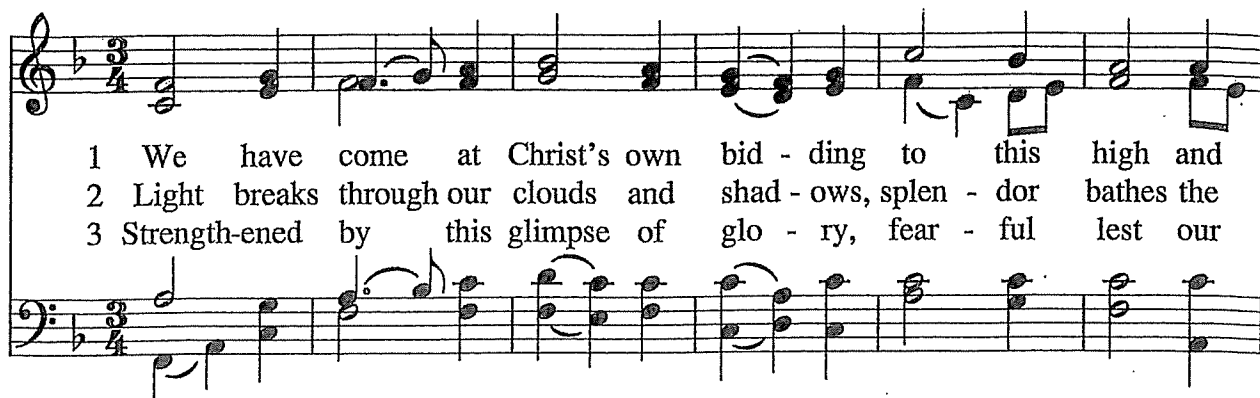
all of my life, one thing I live for: to see your  
 for my own eyes, one thing I pray for: to see your  
 I give my heart, I give my eyes, Lord, to see your

ho - li - ness in all of my life, to see your ho - li - ness in all  
 ho - li - ness in all of my life, to see your ho - li - ness in all  
 ho - li - ness in all of my life, to see your ho - li - ness in all

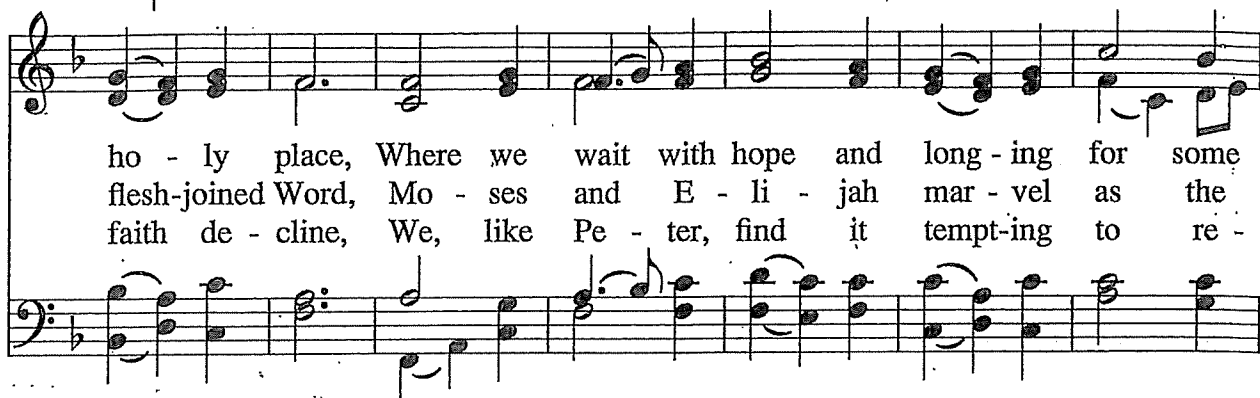
— of my life, to see your ho - li - ness in all of my life,  
 — of my life, to see your ho - li - ness in all of my life,  
 — of my life, to see your ho - li - ness in all of my life,

— all of my life.—  
 — all of my life.—  
 — all of my life.—

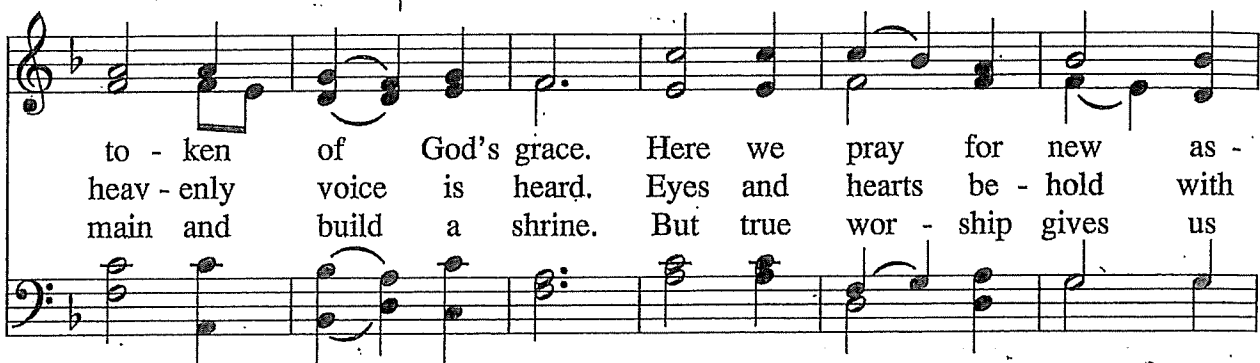
## We Have Come at Christ's Own Bidding

*Matt. 17:1-8; Mark 9:2-8; Luke 9:28-36**Carl P. Daw, Jr., 1988*


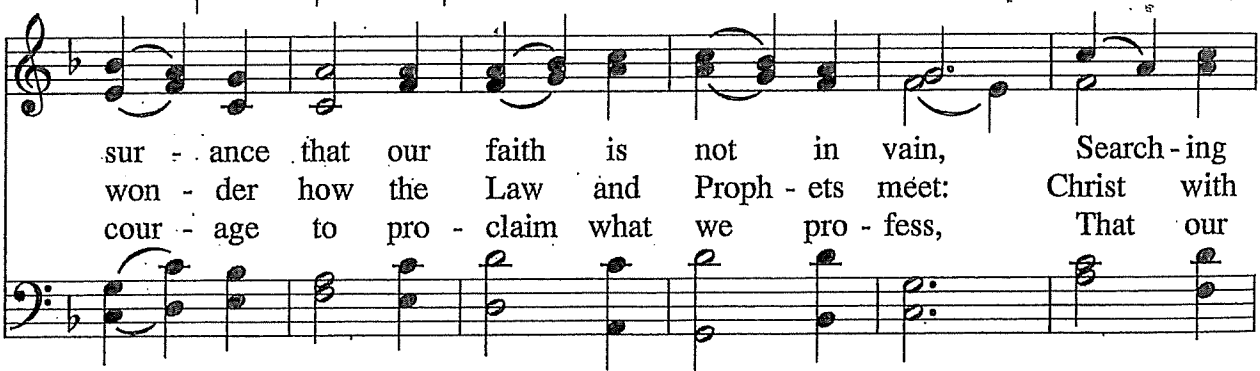
1 We have come at Christ's own bid - ding to this high and  
 2 Light breaks through our clouds and shad - ows, splen - dor bathes the  
 3 Strength-ened by this glimpse of glo - ry, fear - ful lest our



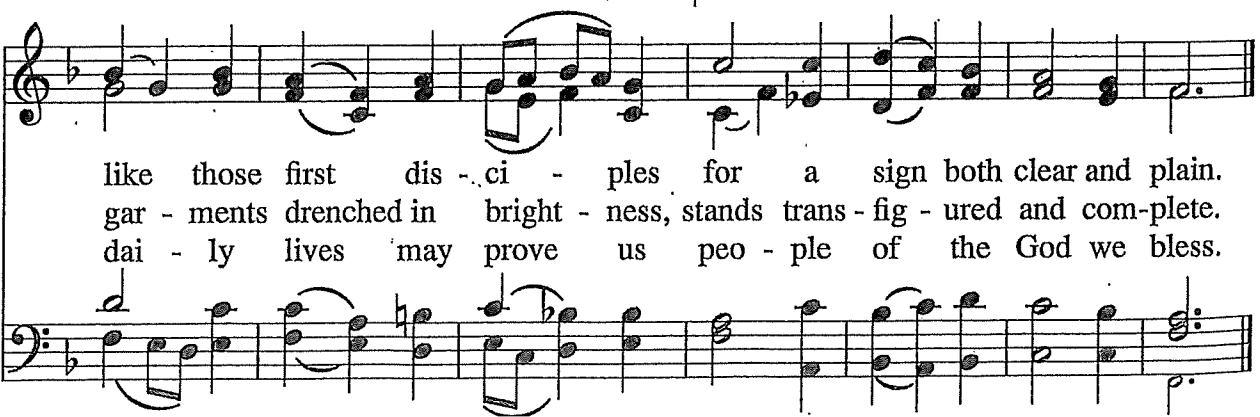
ho - ly place, Where we wait with hope and long - ing for some  
 flesh-joined Word, Mo - ses and E - li - jah mar - vel as the  
 faith de - cline, We, like Pe - ter, find it tempt-ing to re -



to - ken of God's grace. Here we pray for new as -  
 heav - enly voice is heard. Eyes and hearts be - hold with  
 main and build a shrine. But true wor - ship gives us



sur - ance that our faith is not in vain, Search - ing  
 won - der how the Law and Proph - ets meet: Christ with  
 cour - age to pro - claim what we pro - fess, That our



like those first dis - ci - ples for a sign both clear and plain.  
 gar - ments drenched in bright - ness, stands trans - fig - ured and com - plete.  
 dai - ly lives may prove us peo - ple of the God we bless.