

# Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> February – Transfiguration of Jesus

## WE GATHER AS THE PEOPLE OF GOD



*The people stand as the Bible is brought into the Assembly*

*When the Bible is placed the people may be seated.*

*The service begins by the people singing, while seated: Be still for the presence of the Lord*

### Introit

Be still,  
for the presence of the Lord,  
the Holy One is here;  
come bow before God now  
with reverence and fear:  
in God no sin is found –  
we stand on holy ground.  
Be still,  
for the presence of the Lord,  
the Holy One, is here.

Be still.  
for the glory of the Lord,  
is shining all around;  
he burns with holy fire,  
with splendor he is crowned:  
how awesome is the sight –  
our radiant king of light!  
Be still, for the glory of the Lord,  
is shining all around.

### ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF FIRST PEOPLES

From the ancient dreamtime, the Wurundjeri people abided in this Land.

**We honour those who have cherished this land for millennia.**

We acknowledge all first peoples who have told and tell their sacred stories, who have preserved and handed on culture and nurtured faithfulness to the Creator.

**We ask God's courage, sustenance and blessing for all those who continue to work for the healing and restoration of this land and its peoples.**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS *(Including explanation of the Gallacher icon)*

### OPENING PRAYER

Holy God, reveal yourself to us;  
not on the mountain top where land meets sky,  
where the earth touches the heavens,  
but here in this place, among these people;  
earth-bound though we are.

**May we catch a glimpse of the glory you promise us  
through Jesus Christ your Son. Amen.**

### HYMN OF PRAISE Glory be to God Tune TiS 142 "Regent Square"

1. Glory be to God Creator  
and to the incarnate Son,  
and to the eternal Spirit  
blessed three and holy one.  
Glory, glory, glory, glory  
praise the holy trinity.

2. God who fully condescended  
to our frail humanity,  
born of Mary, living simply,  
glory for your poverty.  
Glory, glory, glory, glory  
God made flesh with us to dwell.

3. Jesus Christ who through his dying  
unmasked evil's artifice,  
conquering our base conniving,  
glory for your sacrifice.  
Glory, glory, glory, glory  
for your victory on the cross.

4. Holy Spirit from the Father  
brooding o'er Creation's night,  
joining us to Jesus' victory  
raising us to heaven's height.  
Glory, glory, glory, glory  
for your resurrection light.

Rod Horsfield: SONGS IN SEASON 2023

### PRAYER OF PREPARATION & CONFESSION

Holy and eternal God,  
in Jesus Christ you revealed the light of your glory,  
but we turn away distracted by our own reflection.  
*Sing: Lord, have mercy*

*Silence*

We confess that we speak when we should listen,  
and act when we should wait.  
*Sing: Christ, have mercy*

*Silence*

Forgive our aimless enthusiasms  
and our reluctance to live in your light,  
so follow in the way of your beloved Son.

*Sing: Lord, have mercy*

*Silence*

**Patient God, tune our ears to your truth; open our eyes to your glory;  
for too long we have been unable to hear and see the things of your world,  
unfettered by our human frailties.**

**We ask this for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Companion. Amen**

## **DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS**

The God who said, "Out of darkness, let light shine!" is the same God who made light shine in our hearts to bring us the knowledge of God's glory shining in the face of Christ. (2 Cor 4:6)

Believe the good news of the gospel: In Jesus Christ your sins are forgiven!

**Thanks be to God.**

## **WE LISTEN FOR THE WORD OF GOD, READ AND PROCLAIMED**

Your Word O God is a lamp to our feet

**A light to our path**

READING FROM THE FIRST TESTAMENT:     2 Kings : 2: 1-12

## ANTHEM

With a voice of singing declare ye this, and let it be heard, Alleluia

Utter it even unto the ends of the earth.

The Lord hath delivered his people. Alleluia.

I be joyful in God, all ye lands.

O sing praises to the honour of his name.

Make his praise to be glorious.

Words and music: Martin Shaw, 1875-1958

SECOND READING:           2 Corinthians 4: 1 – 6

GOSPEL READING           Mark 9: 2 - 9

## PROCLAMATION

HYMN      TiS 193      God you are clothed with light

1. God, you are clothed with light,  
as with a garment fair,  
and in your holy sight  
the saints your beauty wear;  
the heavens and all therein express  
the glory of your holiness.

2. Give me a robe  
that I may walk with you:  
bright as the stars are bright,  
pure as their light is pure;  
whose texture sin shall never stain,  
but ever undefiled remain.

3. But can a sinner dare,  
in rags, and sore ashamed,  
lift up to God the prayer  
which now my lips have framed,  
while glowing seraphs fold their wings,  
and pour their sinless offerings?

4. O Christ, I lift my eyes;  
your love for me I own;  
in your great sacrifice  
remains my hope alone;  
the robe is mine, my soul to dress,  
of everlasting righteousness.

*Hymn from the Russian Church  
tr. John Brownlie 1857-1925alt*

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

### OFFERING

OFFERTORY PRAYER      **God of heaven and earth,  
may the glory we see in the face of Christ inspire us  
to earthbound service of all your people.  
Take the offering of our human hands and hearts  
and use them as the vehicle of your compassion  
until all the earth comes to see the light of your love  
in your eternal kingdom. Amen.**

HYMN      TiS 262

1. When pain and terror strike by chance,  
with causes unexplained,  
when God seems absent or asleep,  
and evil unrestrained,  
we crave an all-controlling force  
ready to rule and warn,  
but find, far-shadowed by a cross,  
a child in weakness born.

2. We marvel at God's nakedness  
and sense the play of chance  
in Herod's anger, Peter's growth,  
and Pilate's troubled glance.  
Our Saviour's tempted, tested way  
never was cut and dried,  
but costly, risking life and love,  
betrayed and crucified.

3. How deep the Wisdom of our God,  
how weak, but truly wise,  
to risk, to sacrifice, to die,  
and from the grave arise,  
to shed the shroud of death and fate,  
freeing our hearts for good.  
We breathe the ample air of hope  
and take our chance with God.

4. Since Wisdom took its chance on earth,  
to show God's living way,  
we'll trust that fear and force will fail,  
and Wisdom win the day.  
Then come, dear Christ, and hold us fast  
when faith and hope are torn,  
and bring us, in your loving arms,  
to resurrection morn.

*Brian Arthur Wren  
1936-*

**BLESSING AND DISMISSAL** (first, a time of silence & reflection)

Go into the world with the light of glory on your faces.  
You are servants of the one whose death brings life to the world  
and whose is the kingdom, the power and the glory.  
And the blessing of God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit,  
be with you all, now and until kingdom come. **Amen**

*The congregation sings: TiS 780*

May light come into your eyes,  
may hope spring up in your heart,  
may peace guide all of your mind,  
and keep you in God; and keep you in God.

*Mandy Treagus1955*