

# New Life Presbyterian Church

March 6, 2011  
Transfiguration of our Lord



This day  
we mark  
the day  
when Jesus took  
his disciples  
to the mountain  
and there  
was  
transformed.

Sunlight  
poured  
from  
Jesus' face.

# *New Life Presbyterian Church*

*March 6, 2011*

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† Please stand if you are able, PH - Presbyterian Hymnal, SF - Sing the Faith  
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*The chimes call us to the tables for worship.*

Prelude

Grace and Peace to you. Let us worship God.

## **Gathering**

† Gathering Hymn

Music on the tables

*Announcements and Introductions  
Welcome and Introduction of Guests*

*The chimes signal a time of silence in order to center ourselves for worship.*

We kindle the first light.

This day we mark the day when Jesus took disciples to the mountain and there was transformed. Sunlight poured from Jesus' face.

*It is our custom at New Life to light the votive candles on the Communion table as we sing hymns, pass the peace of Christ, and offer prayers of the people.*

*Please come forward at any of these times.*

† Hymn

“All Creatures of our God and King” (verses 1 and 2)

PH 455

Call to Worship

One: When confronted with wonder

**All: We want to know why.**

One: When confronted with miracle

**All: We are always surprised**

One: When we see trouble and hurt

**All: We reach out to help**

One: When together we worship

**All: to God be the praise.**

## Invitation to the Prayer of Transformation

Prayer of Transformation in Unison.

**One God, we call to you to hear the prayers of our hearts we bring to you  
this day.**

**We know deep within us where you abide  
that we have not been all you have created us to be.**

**We hold our hands in our pockets when in our bounty we could be generous.**

**We turn our eyes away from the broken world  
where we have neglected to care for creation.**

**We laugh at others' troubles and hide from our own.**

**Heal us! Turn us to be the people you call us to be.**

**Open our hearts and let compassion for others flow into the world.**

**Hear now our silent individual prayer of confession.**

Assurance of God's Transformational Love

### Hearing the Word

Scripture

Exodus 24:12-18

GOD said to Moses, “Climb higher up the mountain and wait there for me; I'll give you tablets of stone, the teachings and commandments that I've written to instruct them.” So Moses got up, accompanied by Joshua his aide. And Moses climbed up the mountain of God.

Moses told the elders of Israel, “Wait for us here until we return to you. You have Aaron and Hur with you; if there are any problems, go to them.”

Then Moses climbed the mountain. The Cloud covered the mountain. The Glory of GOD settled over Mount Sinai. The Cloud covered it for six days. On the seventh day God called out of the Cloud to Moses. In the view of the Israelites below, the Glory of God looked like a raging fire at the top of the mountain.

Moses entered the middle of the Cloud and climbed the mountain. Moses was on the mountain forty days and forty nights.

The Word of God,

**All: Thanks be to God**

NL Choral Ensemble

Directed by Matalie Wham

“O Wondrous Sight, O Vision Fair” aka The Agincourt Song,

*O wondrous sight, o vision fair of glory that the church shall share,  
which Christ upon the mountain shows, where, brighter than the sun,  
He glows!*

*From age to age the tale declare, how, with the three disciples there,  
where Moses and Elijah meet, the Lord holds converse high and sweet.  
The law and prophets there have place: two chosen witnesses of grace.  
The Father’s voice from out the cloud proclaims His only Son aloud.  
With shining face and bright array, Christ deigns to manifest today.  
What glory shall be theirs above, who joy in God with perfect love.  
And faithful hearts are raised on high by this great vision’s mystery,*

A time with the children

Children leave for Sunday Circle.

† Sharing the Peace of God

*Peace be with you....and also with you.*

Scripture

2 Peter 1:16-21

We weren’t, you know, just wishing on a star when we laid the facts out before you regarding the powerful return of our Master, Jesus Christ. We were there for the preview! We saw it with our own eyes: Jesus resplendent with light from God the Father as the voice of Majestic Glory spoke: “This is my Son, marked by my love, focus of all my delight.” We were there on the holy mountain with him. We heard the voice out of heaven with our very own ears.

We couldn’t be more sure of what we saw and heard—God’s glory, God’s voice. The prophetic Word was confirmed to us. You’ll do well to keep focusing on it. It’s the one light you have in a dark time as you wait for daybreak and the rising of the Morning Star in your hearts. The main thing to keep in mind here is that no prophecy of Scripture is a matter of private opinion. And why? Because it’s not something concocted in the human heart. Prophecy resulted when the Holy Spirit prompted men and women to speak God’s Word.

The Word of God,

**All: Thanks be to God**

† Hymn

“All Creatures of our God and King” (verses 5 and 6)

PH 455

## Matthew 17

### Sunlight Poured from His Face

Six days later, three of them saw that glory. Jesus took Peter and the brothers, James and John, and led them up a high mountain. His appearance changed from the inside out, right before their eyes. Sunlight poured from his face. His clothes were filled with light. Then they realized that Moses and Elijah were also there in deep conversation with him.

Peter broke in, "Master, this is a great moment! What would you think if I built three memorials here on the mountain—one for you, one for Moses, one for Elijah?"

While he was going on like this, babbling, a light-radiant cloud enveloped them, and sounding from deep in the cloud a voice: "This is my Son, marked by my love, focus of my delight. Listen to him."

When the disciples heard it, they fell flat on their faces, scared to death. But Jesus came over and touched them. "Don't be afraid." When they opened their eyes and looked around all they saw was Jesus, only Jesus.

Coming down the mountain, Jesus swore them to secrecy. "Don't breathe a word of what you've seen. After the Son of Man is raised from the dead, you are free to talk."

Sermon "Standing in the Light"

Rev. Bobbie G. McGarey

### Silent Reflection

#### The Chimes Signal the Prayers of the People

"Alleluia" (Please remain seated)

SF 2014

### Bidding Prayers of the People

*Our time of prayer will offer us time to raise our own prayer and to hear the prayer of others. We will respond with O Lord, hear our prayer after each individual intercession*

Come Lord, Jesus be our guest, let our prayers to you be blessed.

Glorious God to stand in your presence is humbling and joyful.

We here gathered raise to you our prayer trusting in your mercy and in your kindness. May our hearts speak louder than our words.

May we, in compassion, raise our prayer to you.

We offer prayer of thanksgiving

( we give thanks silently or aloud for our many blessings)

We pray for those who are ill and need your healing presence.....  
(offer prayer , silently or aloud, those for whom we seek God's healing)

We pray for the created world...

(offer prayer for concerns for the earth)

We pray for the world where there is need ...

(offer prayer, silently or aloud for the world's needs)

We offer prayer for the Church and for our church family...

(offer prayer, silently or aloud for the faithful)

We offer prayer for those who need your protection...

(offer prayer, silently or aloud for those who need God's guidance and protection)

*The Lord's Prayer*

Hymn

"I've Got Peace Like a River "

PH 368

Offering

Improvisational Music by Matalie Wham

† Doxology

Copies on Tables

Unison Prayer of Dedication

**Take my life, and let it be consecrated, Lord, to Thee.**

**Take my moments and my days; let them flow in ceaseless praise.**

**Take my hands, and let them move at the impulse of Thy love.**

**Take my feet, and let them be swift and beautiful for Thee.**

† Choral Benediction

"Go With Us, Lord"

PH 535

† Charge and Benediction

*Go out into the world to love and serve God*

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This morning's service was prepared by Bobbie McGarey and the Worship Committee.

Resources: "O Wondrous Sight, O Vision Fair" trans. John Meade Neale, 1851.

CCLI License 11006470.

Join together on **Wednesday, March 9, 2011, 6:30** to mark the beginning of Lent with prayer, song and imposition of ashes if you desire. Let us make this a Holy Lenten Journey to Easter. If you are unable to come at 6 and would like to participate in the imposition of ashes, Bobbie will be available Wednesday afternoon from 3-5.

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**Wednesday Lenten Soup Suppers will begin on March 16 —  
a light supper and Lenten study**

**The New Life Session** meets next Sunday

**Contemplative Taizé Service** ~ Every Sunday evening at 6:30

**Taizé service and Labyrinth walk** ~ the last Sunday of each month