

JESUS, WHY SO MYSTERIOUS?

*Exploring Jesus'
secretive identity
in Mark's Gospel*



Our Worship of God

February 14, 2021

11:15 am

~ Transfiguration Sunday ~

Pre-Service Music Love Divine, All Loves Excelling arr. Sue Mitchell-Wallace

Welcome Pastor Carol McEntyre

Call to Worship (responsive) Michelle & Ross Kasmann

God, we celebrate the transfiguration of Christ -

Christ, shining gloriously with heaven's light,

Embodying his True Self, even while on earth.

He is fully Become, fully realized.

And, as always, his path is our path.

We are invited into everything Christ does.

He is calling us, also, into transfiguration,

Into the embodiment of our highest spiritual selves.

As Christ is embodied Love, so we are embodied Love.

As he heals his community, so we heal our communities.

As he is baptized and purified, so we are baptized and purified.

As he is bestowed with Divine acceptance, so we are accepted.

As he is filled with Divine light, so we are filled.

As he shines with heaven's glory, so we shine.

This path is both mysterious and plain;

Both spiritual and physical,

Both simple and profound,

Both lover and beloved.

Help us now, O God, to do whatever is required
To prepare and purify ourselves,
To give consent to receive,
And act to take hold
Of this dazzling Becoming,
This realization of our true, glorious selves.
Amen.

Opening Song

Called Me Higher

*I could just sit I could just sit
And wait for all Your goodness
Hope to feel Your presence
And I could just stay I could just stay
Right where I am and hope to feel You
Hope to feel something again*

*I could hold on I could hold on
To who I am and never let You
Change me from the inside
I could be safe oh I could be safe
Here in Your arms and never leave home
Never let these walls down*

*But You have called me higher
You have called me deeper
And I'll go where You will lead me Lord
You have called me higher
You have called me deeper
And I'll go where You will lead me Lord
Where You lead me*

Where You lead me Lord

*I could hold on I could hold on
To who I am and never let You*

*Change me from the inside
I could be safe oh I could be safe
Here in Your arms and never leave home
Never let these walls down*

*But You have called me higher
You have called me deeper
And I'll go where You will lead me Lord
You have called me higher
You have called me deeper
And I'll go where You will lead me Lord
Where You lead me*

Where You lead me Lord

*I will be Yours oh
I will be Yours for all my life
I will be Yours oh
I will be Yours for all my life
I will be Yours oh
I will be Yours for all my life
So let Your mercy
Oh I will be Yours Lord
And I will be Yours for all my life
So let Your mercy
Light the path before me*

*'Cause You have called me higher
You have called me deeper
And I'll go where You will lead me Lord
Oh 'cause You have called me higher
You have called me deeper
And I'll go where You will lead me Lord*

*'Cause You have called me higher
You have called me deeper
And I'll go where You will lead me Lord*

*Oh 'cause You have called me higher
You have called me deeper
And I'll go where You will lead me Lord*

*Where You lead me
Where You lead me Lord
Where You lead me
Where You lead me Lord*

Lighting of the Christ Candle

*We invite you to light a candle at your place of worship
as a visual reminder of God's presence with us.*

Scripture Reading

Rena Tratchel

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 our Lord.

Praise be to Christ.

*From the cloud You speak
What was veiled now is seen
Jesus the image of the invisible God*

*Divinity confirmed
In the transfigured Word
A kingdom once concealed
On the earth now revealed*

*Holy is the Lord
Revealed before my eyes
And my burning heart
Can scarcely take it in
As I behold Your beauty
With unworthy eyes
The only song my soul can find to sing
Is hallelujah
Hallelujah*

*Lead my longing heart
To the high ground to a clear view
And in awe I'll be there
Beholding You*

*Now I know I have seen
Your glory that cannot be unseen
I am changed and changing still
As I look upon You Lord and believe*

*Holy is the Lord
Revealed before my eyes
And my burning heart
Can scarcely take it in
As I behold Your beauty
With unworthy eyes*

*The only song my soul can find to sing
Is hallelujah
Hallelujah
Hallelujah my King*

Missions Moment

Pastors Michael & Carol McEntyre

Sharing Our Gifts

Hymn

Transform Us

*Transform us as you, transfigured, stood apart on Tabor's height.
Lead us up our sacred mountains, search us with revealing light.
Lift us from where we have fallen, full of questions, filled with fright.*

*Transform us as you, transfigured, once spoke with those holy ones.
We, surrounded by the witness of those saints whose work is done,
Live in this world as your Body, chosen daughters, chosen sons.*

*Transform us as you, transfigured, would not stay within a shrine.
Keep us from our great temptation—time and truth we quickly bind.
Lead us down those daily pathways where our love is not confined.*

Message

Pastor Carol McEntyre

Hymn of Response

Wherever He Leads I'll Go

*"Take up thy cross and follow Me," I heard my Master say;
"I gave My life to ransom thee, surrender your all today."
Wherever He leads I'll go, wherever He leads I'll go,
I'll follow my Christ who loves me so, wherever He leads I'll go.*

*He drew me closer to His side, I sought His will to know,
And in that will I now abide, wherever He leads I'll go.
Wherever He leads I'll go, wherever He leads I'll go,
I'll follow my Christ who loves me so, wherever He leads I'll go.*

*It may be through the shadows dim, or o'er the stormy sea,
I take my cross and follow Him, wherever he leadeth me.
Wherever He leads I'll go, wherever He leads I'll go,
I'll follow my Christ who loves me so, wherever He leads I'll go.*

*My heart, my life, my all I bring to Christ who loves me so;
He is my Master, Lord, and King, wherever he leads I'll go.
Wherever He leads I'll go, wherever He leads I'll go,
I'll follow my Christ who loves me so, wherever He leads I'll go.*

Life of the Church

Benediction

Come down from the mountain with mountain-like faith.
Walk on God's paths as bright, shining lights.
Live in God's ways with faith, hope, and love.
Go into the world transformed and renewed!

Postlude

Air

by Culli

Worship Notes

Call to Worship, by Fran Pratt

Called Me Higher, CCLI Song # 5887880, Leslie Jordan

Transfiguration ~ CCLI Song # 7047252, Aodhan King | Brooke Ligertwood | Scott Ligertwood | Taya Gaukrodger

Transform Us, ©1991 GIA Publications, Inc. Words: Sylvia Dunstan, 1989. Music: Traditional French melody (17th century); harm. The English Hymnal, 1906.

Wherever He Leads I'll Go, ©1936, Ren. 1964 Broadman Press. Words & Music: B. B. McKinney, 1936.

Benediction, ~ from the Abingdon Worship Annual. Posted on the **Cokesbury** website.
<http://www.cokesbury.com/forms/DynamicContent.aspx?pageid=830&id=198>

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Week at a Glance

Sunday, February 14

- 10:00 am Student Ministry Group online
- 10:00 am Online Winter Bible Study with Dr. Hulitt Gloer
- 11:15 am Online Worship Service
- 1:00-3:00 pm Drive-Thru Devotional Pick-up

Tuesday, February 16

- 1:00 pm Crafty Critters Zoom Call
- 6:00 pm First Kids Families Zoom Pancake Party

Wednesday, February 17

- 12:00 pm Zoom at Noon with Pastor Brittany
- 12:00 pm-1:00 pm Drive-By Imposition of Ashes with Pastor Carol
- 6:30 pm Ash Wednesday Service via Zoom
(No Music Rehearsals this week)

Friday, February 19

- 12:15 pm Jesus Calling: Women's Devotional and Prayer Time via Zoom

Sunday, February 21

- 10:00 am Student Ministry Group online
- 11:15 am Online Worship Service, New Lenten Sermon Series, *Again & Again*

Announcements

Visitors and Prayer Requests

If you are visiting with us online, we are so glad to have you with us! If you would like to receive more information about First Baptist and our ministries, let us know you are with us today by texting “guest” to 573-326-9490. If you are in need of prayer, text “prayer” to 573-326-9490 and Brittany, our Pastor of Families and Spiritual Formation will connect with you.

CBF Offering for Global Missions

During the month of February, First Baptist members will have the opportunity to support the work of Cooperative Baptist Field Personnel around the world, like our very own Keith Holmes and Mary Van Rheenen, by giving to the CBF Offering for Global Missions. Your support of the Offering for Global Missions will share the Gospel message and provide tangible gifts of God’s grace and mercy. 100% of your gifts to the Offering goes to funding the ministry of field personnel. You can send in your offering by check (made out to First Baptist Church with CBF missions in the memo line) or beginning February 1, you can choose the missions offering link on our website to give electronically. At the end of February, the church will combine all gifts and send one check to CBF. Thank you for your generosity.

Drive-Thru Lent Devotional Pick-up Today

Today from 1-3:00 pm

This year, we are offering a Lenten Devotional put together by *Sanctified Art*. Beginning with Ash Wednesday, this weekly devotional follows the Revised Common Lectionary through Easter Sunday. Each week offers: scripture readings, biblical commentary, poetry, visual art, written reflections, and coloring pages. We encourage you to walk through these weekly readings at your own pace throughout the season, following the rhythm that works best for you. First Kids Families can also collect their Lent-at-Home bags at this time.

Lent-at-Home Bags

Lent, the 40 days leading up to Easter is a season of preparation. Traditionally, the three pillars of lent are prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. This year, First Kids is emphasizing prayer. Similar to the Faith at Home Advent Boxes, families can collect a Lent-at-home bag during the drive-thru Lent Devotional pick-up on Sunday, February 14 from 1-3 pm. Boxes will include a family devotional centered on prayer, a daily prayer calendar to countdown the days of Lent, pancake mix, a piece of an easter mural, and a few other surprises. If you are unable to attend the drive-thru event and would like to schedule a different time to collect your box, email Pastor Brittany at bnull@fbc-columbia.org

Zoom Pancake Party – Tuesday, February 16 at 6 pm

First Kids Families are invited to a Zoom Pancake Party for Shrove Tuesday! Each family will receive pancake mix in their Lent-at-Home bags along with some syrup. Why pancakes on Shrove Tuesday? Traditionally, the 40 days of Lent leading up to Easter was a time of fasting. Shrove Tuesday was the last opportunity to use up eggs and fats before embarking on the Lenten fast and pancakes are the perfect way of using up these ingredients. This tradition is so popular that Shrove Tuesday is also known as Pancake Day! Our digital gathering will be a time for families to check in, eat pancakes (or whatever dinner works best for your family), hear briefly about our Lenten plans, play a simple Lenten-themed scavenger hunt, and most importantly see one another.

Ash Wednesday – February 17

Lent begins on February 17 with Ash Wednesday. This year, you will have two opportunities to mark the beginning of Lent. From Noon-1:00 pm Pastor Carol McEntyre will be in the church parking lot offering drive-by imposition of ashes. You will get a chance to see Pastor Carol and to receive the imposition of ashes. The marking of ashes in the shape of a cross on the foreheads of believers as a reminder of mortality and belonging and is how Christians begin the forty-day journey of Lent. At 6:30 pm, we will come together for a virtual Zoom worship experience. We will sing, hear scripture readings, and set our intentions for Lent.

Lenten Series

Our Lenten Theme this year is *Again & Again*. In Lent, we're reminded that, again and again, suffering and brokenness find us. We doubt again, we lament again, we mess up again. Again and again, the story of Jesus on the cross repeats—every time lives are taken unjustly, every time the powerful choose corruption and violence, every time individuals forget how to love. With exasperation we exclaim, "Again?! How long, O God?" And yet, in the midst of the motion blur chaos of our lives, God offers a sacred refrain: "I choose you, I love you, I will lead you to repair." Again and again, God breaks the cycle and offers us a new way forward.

Tuesday Evening Visio Divina Bible Study -Begins February 23

Visio Divina, Latin for "divine seeing," is a method of meditation, reflection, and prayer through a process of intentional seeing. Visio Divina extends the 6th century Benedictine practice of Lectio Divina by the use of visual imagery. Traditionally, Visio Divina was accompanied by Benedictine iconography and illuminations, however, different faith traditions have adapted the process over time, utilizing both secular and nonsecular images. During Lent, Pastor Brittany will be leading a Visio Divina Bible Study via Zoom at 7 pm. The meeting will be a blend of visual meditation with group discussion and bible study.

Stations of the Cross Experience- March 1-17

In addition to the virtual Lenten opportunities, we are also creating an in-person Stations of the Cross Experience, which will be set up in the Sanctuary open March 1-17. The Station of the Cross Experience honors the ancient story of Jesus' death while recognizing the ways this narrative repeats itself again and again throughout the past and present. It provides multi-sensory ways to engage, confess, and lament, creating a profound and prophetic worship experience. Designed by Rev. T. Denise Anderson, the service features her original artwork and artist statement, *Pietà: "Woman, Behold Your Son; Behold Your Mother"*—a sermon project exploring the story of Mamie Till-Mobley (the mother of Emmett Till) and the grief of Mary, mother of Jesus, beholding her son on the cross. You can sign up for a time by going to our website.

Churches that THRIVE for Racial Justice

We are thrilled to announce First Baptist has been selected into the Alliance of Baptists' THRIVE for Racial Justice cohort! The Alliance received a Lilly Endowment grant to form a cohort of churches who will participate in a five-year project dedicated to the work of racial justice. Last fall we applied, and a few weeks ago we learned First Baptist is among the 25 churches across 18 states chosen for the project.

Both the leaders of the Alliance and the scholars partnering with them in the Churches that THRIVE for Racial Justice project agree that the definition of a thriving church cannot be assessed solely in terms of larger attendance or growing budgets. Rather, thriving congregations recognize their changing social and cultural contexts, exhibit clarity of values and mission, and cultivate Christian practices in line with those values as they address and seek to overcome racial injustice.

We believe being part of the THRIVE for Racial Justice cohort will provide us with accountability and structure for our racial justice work as a church. To help lead our efforts we are reforming our Racial Justice Team. The Racial Justice Team will hold its first organizational Zoom meeting Sunday, March 14, from 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. The purpose and function of this group is to grow in our individual and collective understandings, and to advocate for racial justice in partnership with an alliance of 24 other Thriving Baptist Church congregations who will be taking this journey with us. If you think you might like to become a part of this team or have any questions, please email Julie Walker at jbethwalker58@gmail.com.