

March 3 2019
Last of Epiphany / Transfiguration

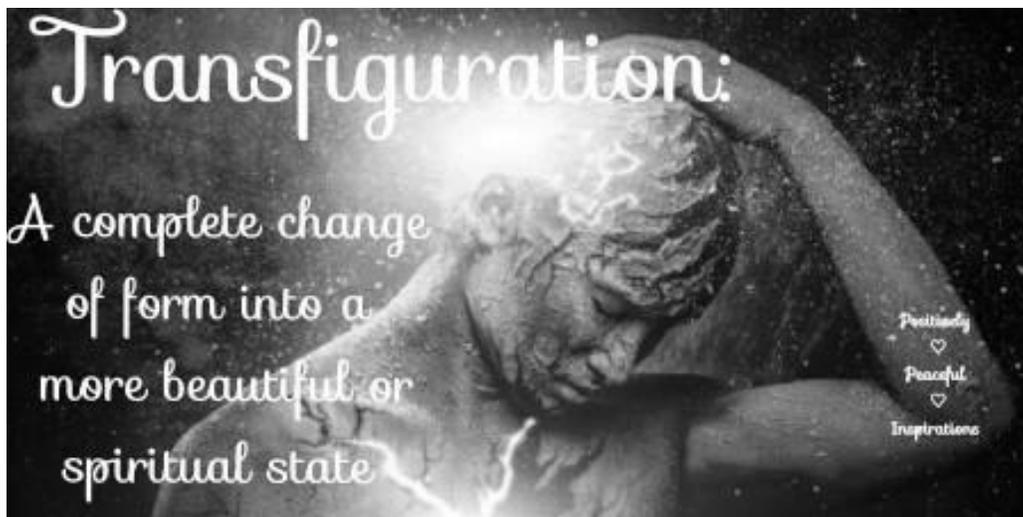
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OUR MISSION STATEMENT

"Working together to feed God's people mind, body and spirit"



Reflection

"Transfiguration is living by vision: standing foursquare in the midst of a broken, tortured, oppressed, starving, dehumanizing reality, yet seeing the invisible, calling to it to come, behaving as if it is on the way, sustained by elements of it that have come already, within and among us. In those moments when people are healed, transformed, freed from addictions, obsessions, destructiveness, self worship or when groups or communities or even, rarely, whole nations glimpse the light of transcendent in their midst, then the New Creation has come upon us. The world for one brief moment is transfigured. The beyond shines in our midst -- on the way to the cross."

Walter Wink

Pre-service Music and Welcome

GATHERING

We acknowledge this sacred land on which Kimbourne Park United Church operates. It has been a site of human activity for 15,000 years. This land is the territory of the Huron-Wendat and Petun First Nations, the Seneca, and most recently, the Mississaugas of the New Credit. The territory was the subject of the Dish with One Spoon Wampum Belt Covenant, an agreement between the Iroquois Confederacy and Confederacy of the Ojibwe and allied nations to peaceably share and care for the resources around the Great Lakes.

Today, the meeting place of Toronto is still the home to many Indigenous people from across Turtle Island and we are grateful to have the opportunity to work in the community, on this territory.

Opening Words

One: Come into this place, where the ordinary is sanctified, the human is celebrated, the compassionate is expected.

MV 115 "Behold, I Make all Things New"

***Carol:** Let us celebrate the richness and diversity of life in the presentness of God.
The community candle is lit.*

*In this place of friendship there is freedom. Let the light we kindle go before us, strong in hope, wide in good will, inviting the day to come.
Amen. May it be so*

MV 115 "Behold, I Make all Things New"

Opening Sentences

One: Let us acknowledge the awesome mystery embodied in every person.

ALL: Through us God comes to unique and personal expression.

One: Let us give thanks for the abundance of life on this earth.

ALL: Through it we and all people may be nourished.

Prayer of Awareness

One: We pray. Creativity in all times and seasons, and of all the seasons of our lives, we gather in this sacred place, thankful for the days that have been, and hopeful for the days that shall be.

May we become one with ourselves and you in all the seasons to come.

Amen. May it be so!

VU 651 "Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehova"

The Peace

One: Let us take a moment to celebrate each other. The peace of God is here to stay.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

You are invited to share the peace with your neighbours.

Invitation to the Children to Come Forward

Children of all ages are invited to come forward to sit on the steps.

Children are now invited to go downstairs for church school.

EXPLORING

Readings from our biblical tradition

Gospel Acclamation: Celtic Alleluia

Cantor: Speak, Lord, your servant is listening: you have the message of eternal life.

Gospel: Luke 9:28-43 The Message

About eight days after saying this, he climbed the mountain to pray, taking Peter, John, and James along. While he was in prayer, the appearance of his face changed and his clothes became blinding white. At once two men were there talking with him. They turned out to be Moses and Elijah—and what a glorious appearance they made! They talked over his exodus, the one Jesus was about to complete in Jerusalem.

Meanwhile, Peter and those with him were slumped over in sleep. When they came to, rubbing their eyes, they saw Jesus in his glory and the two men standing with him. When Moses and Elijah had left, Peter said to Jesus, "Master, this is a great moment! Let's build three memorials: one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." He blurted this out without thinking.

While he was babbling on like this, a light-radiant cloud enveloped them. As they found themselves buried in the cloud, they became deeply aware of God. Then there was a voice out of the cloud: "This is my Son, the Chosen! Listen to him."

When the sound of the voice died away, they saw Jesus there alone. They were speechless. And they continued speechless, said not one thing to anyone during those days of what they had seen.

When they came down off the mountain the next day, a big crowd was there to meet them. A man called from out of the crowd, "Please, please, Teacher, take a look at my son. He's my only child. Often a spirit seizes him. Suddenly he's screaming, thrown into convulsions, his mouth foaming. And then it beats him black-and-blue before it leaves. I asked your disciples to deliver him but they couldn't."

Jesus said, "What a generation! No sense of God! No focus to your lives! How many times do I have to go over these things? How much longer do I have to put up with this? Bring your son here."

While he was coming, the demon slammed him to the ground and threw him into convulsions. Jesus stepped in, ordered the vile spirit gone, healed the boy, and handed him back to his father. They all shook their heads in wonder, astonished at God's greatness, God's majestic greatness.

While they continued to stand around exclaiming over all the things he was doing, Jesus said to his disciples, "Treasure and ponder each of these next words: The Son of Man is about to be betrayed into human hands."

MV 110 First-born of Mary, provocative preacher,
itinerant teacher, outsider's choice;
Jesus inspires and disarms and confuses
Whoever he chooses to hear his voice.

Contemporary Word

MV 119 "God Our Protector"

CELEBRATING/AFFIRMING

**ALL: We are not alone,
we live in God's world.**

**We believe in God:
who has created and is creating,
who has come in Jesus,
the Word made flesh,
to reconcile and make new,
who works in us and others
by the Spirit.**

We trust in God.

**We are called to be the Church:
to celebrate God's presence,
to live with respect in Creation,
to love and serve others,
to seek justice and resist evil,
to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen,
our judge and our hope.**

**In life, in death, in life beyond death,
God is with us.
We are not alone.**

Thanks be to God.

Offertory Invitation

One: Let us bring our offerings as a symbol of our ministry in this place.

MV 42 "Praise God for This Holy Ground"

Thanksgiving

One: May it be well with you.

ALL: And also with you.

One: Life is a gift and we its celebration.

ALL: May we rejoice in the beauty that we are. G. Vosper/wwg

Nicole: We give thanks and praise for all that is good in the world;
for that mystery we name God, for the sage we name Jesus, for the renewing
strength and freedom of the Spirit.

***Carol:** God of winter, the unpopular, slandered season, God of lightning, wind and
storm, God of brisk winter mornings, frosted back lawns and stark hillsides;
of warm socks, coats and gloves, raincoats, umbrellas and warm fires,
we open ourselves to all the possibilities life offers us.*

One: So we join our celebration to all people, sing-

**VU 932 Holy, holy, holy are you, God of power and might;
heaven and earth are filled with your glory.
Hosanna in the highest!
Blessed is the one who comes in your name.
Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest!**

One: We remember the time when Jesus faced difficult decisions and destructive
forces:

- in the days and nights of his searching,
- in finding ways to free others from images and ideas
that kept them captive and dependent and fearful of God,
- in breaking down social and religious barriers,
- in facing failure,
- in facing death. M. Morwood/pns

Nicole: When we too experience the winter of our lives may we find the courage to let
go and trust in your guiding, warming light.

Silence

Carol: *And as we eat together at this table we remember the importance and the words and the actions of all meals in the tradition of Jesus...*

One: He took bread, gave thanks, broke it, and gave it to his friends.

He poured a cup of wine, offered thanks for it, and gave it also to his friends.

Response

Carol: *Everyone is welcome to be here.*

ALL: In this way, we lift up a world of inclusion, where all people live with respect and dignity.

Carol: *Everyone present will receive a share.*

ALL: In this way, we lift up a world of generosity, where, as in the examples of Jesus, abundance overcomes scarcity so all are fed.

Carol: *Everyone is invited now to take a portion, and to see others also receive.*

ALL: In this way, we lift up a world of sufficiency, where entrenched systems of privilege are challenged, wealth is shared equally, and all are satisfied with enough. J. Nelson-Pallmeyer/wsj

Communion

Nicole: So in the meal tradition of Jesus we break and share bread and drink wine, pledging ourselves to allow the spirit that moved in Jesus to move freely in our lives.



All are welcome at
God's Table

After Communion

ALL: God of amazing grace, in the cold of the winter months we are grateful for your presentness, warming us.

We pray this presence will strengthen us to follow in the way of Jesus, in this city.

SCATTERING

Announcements

Words of Mission

One: The presentness of God reaches beyond this place...

With faith in the creative powers of life, with hope for the future of life in this world, with love for all others who share this life with us, let us go forward together in peace.

ALL: Our worship in this sacred space has ended. Let our service begin.

MV 209 "Go, Make a Difference"

Go make a difference. We can make a difference.

Go make a difference in the world. (2X)

Words of Blessing

One: Go as far as your courage takes you, for you cannot go beyond the reach of God.
Give as extravagantly as you may, for you cannot spend all the riches of God.
Care as lavishly as you are able, for you cannot exhaust the love of God.
Keep journeying as a friend, for God will always be with you. B. Hughes

VU 974 "Amen, amen, hallelujah, amen!"

Announcements and Upcoming Events

Board Meeting

Monday March 18 @7:00 PM in the Jessie Scott room.



Games Night is the 2ND Saturday of each month. The next Games Night is **Saturday March 9** 5:00-10:00 PM. Everyone is welcome.

THE NEXT ACT!ON SUNDAY is MARCH 17

KPUC's commitment to food justice is ACT!ON SUNDAY. It is not instead of worship but rather how we worship on the third Sunday of every month. Being part of the KPUC community means that you are part of making ACT!ON SUNDAY a success.

Let's work together to feed our neighbours like family!

THANKFUL FOR OUR
CHURCH STAFF

Our annual staff appreciation dinner has been set for Friday March 8 6:30 PM at The Beacher Café 2162 Queen St. East (at MacLean Ave.) Everyone is welcome to join. RSVP to Rob Pearson or Suzanne Bond ASAP in order to reserve your place.

RENEWALS ARE DUE TODAY!

THE OBSERVER IS CHANGING AND IS BEING RE-NAMED "BROADVIEW" STARTING MAY 2019. IF YOU WISH TO CONTINUE RECEIVING THE RE-BRANDED UNITED CHURCH PUBLICATION OR WANT START A NEW SUBSCRIPTION PLEASE SEE NICOLE. RATES REMAIN UNCHANGED AT A LOW \$25 FOR A ONE YEAR (10 ISSUES) SUBSCRIPTION.