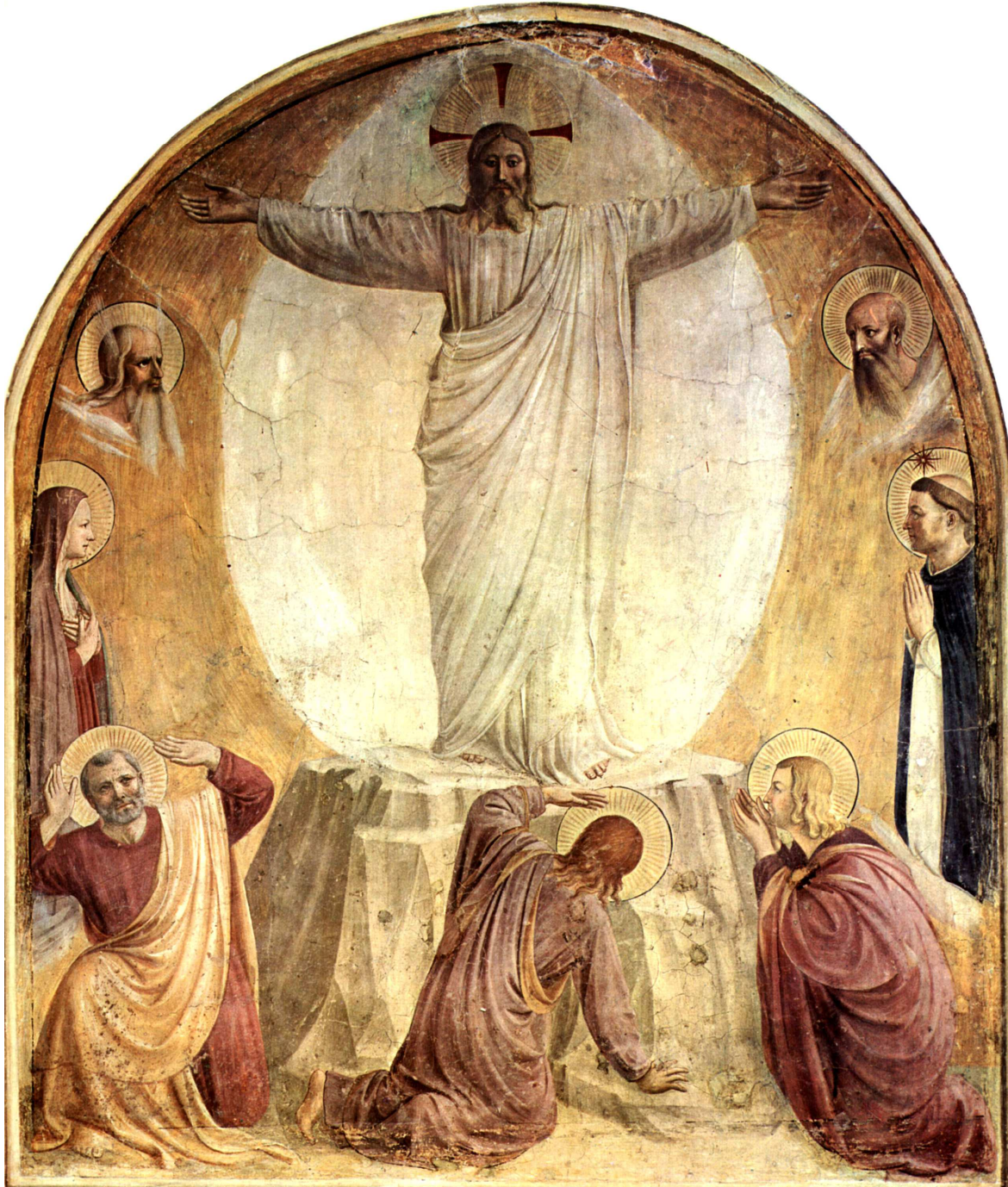


KIRK IN THE HILLS  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (U.S.A.)  
TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD  
FEBRUARY 27, 2022



*The current moment invites us to think theologically in a way that heals trauma and restores humanity to a life-affirming, this-worldly faith that supports earthly flourishing.*

— Dr. Rita Brock



From Nicole Joseph

For many of us, being in the dark of winter makes us long for sunshine, want to plan a trip down South, or look forward to vacationing in the summertime. But first we must get through the cold and storm of winter, the rain and mud of spring, and then we will finally get to enjoy those long warm summer days. We have to take each wintery day one at a time. Especially for us folks in Michigan, we've got to go through winter to get to spring. But one thing I love about a big storm is the chance to stay home and cozy up inside under a blanket. The storm can,

in a way, bring warmth; it can call attention to the important and often overlooked blessings of our lives.

And so it is in the church year as well: to get to Easter, we must first journey through Lent, which begins *Ash Wednesday* with services on March 2. There will be imposition of ashes at both the short midday service at noon and full service with Chancel Choir at 7pm. And that journey through Lent is what draws us in to a closer relationship with God. It is a time of reflection and introspection, as well as preparation for Good Friday and Easter, where we focus not just on our mortality and repenting from sin, but also on receiving God's mercy and love through the sacrifice of Jesus.

This Lenten season, we are focusing on the "Inward Journey Home," the idea that all this journeying and reflecting should lead us home to God—and in Christ's sacrifice for us on the cross, we all have a seat at the table in God's house. You will have many opportunities to explore this journey for yourself through the Lenten Daily Devotional, Lenten Art Series, the Midweek Meditation, and especially, I hope, with our Lenten musical offering, *Finding Home: A Lenten Musical Journey* on March 13 at 3pm. This program of music, readings, and meditation will highlight the many journeys we find ourselves on, both individually and collectively, as those who are lost and longing to find a refuge and home in God. As we share in this afternoon of music, featuring special guest pianist Alvin Waddles, Merideth Hite Estevez, and the Chancel Choir and soloists, our prayer is that one can find that glimmer of hope in the dark, of sun after a snow day, and that we may be one step closer to Home in God.

# THE SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

9:00 & 10:30 a.m., Sanctuary

"...And all were astounded at the greatness of God." — **Luke 9:43a**

## THE GATHERING

### THE CARILLON

### OPENING VOLUNTARY

*Dom Paul Benoit*

#### **Prelude and Introit in the III Mode (The Transfiguration)**

\* *Please rise in body or spirit at the ringing of the tower bell.*

### \* CALL TO WORSHIP

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

This is the day that the LORD has made,

**Let us rejoice and be glad in it!**

Let us worship the Living God!

### \* INTROIT

Lead us, heavenly Father,

*Dulce Carmen*

Lead us o'er the world's tempestuous sea;

Guard us, guide us, keep us, feed us,

For we have no help but thee,

Yet possessing every blessing,

If our God our Father be.

### \* PROCESSIONAL HYMN 12

**Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise**

*St. Denio*

### \* PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Gracious God of all our days, we thank you for this day,  
for this hour, for this moment of opportunity we share  
together in the face of all that has been and all that is to become.  
We lift up our hearts to be transformed by  
your will, we lift up our hands to be transformed by your work.  
Together, on this day of transfiguration,  
we confess the wholeness of our lives to ourselves,  
to our neighbor, and to you. Mindful of all that we have  
done and all we have left undone. Doing so in the sure  
and ever present grace of your spirit, grant that we may live into  
the transfiguration of your mercy, grant that we move forth from  
this space committed to the love which you have shown us.  
Let not the brilliance of your love shown unto us, be ever  
forgotten; that we may delight in your will, and walk in  
your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.

### \* KYRIE ELEISON

*Orthodox*

Lord, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

**\* ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

Almighty God have mercy on us,  
Forgiving us all our days,  
Strengthening us in all our work,  
Binding us in all our community,  
Guiding us in all our commitments,  
And transforming us in all ways.  
Therefore we are bold to proclaim together:  
**By the mercy of God, the love of Christ,  
and the work of the Spirit, we are forgiven.  
Thanks be to God!**

**\* GLORIA PATRI**

**Glory be to the Father,  
and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.  
As it was in the beginning,  
is now and ever shall be.  
World without end. Amen.**

*Greatorex*

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**OUR FAITH IN ACTION**

Mission Trips

**WORD WITH THE CHILDREN (9:00 a.m.)**

**Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come,  
thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread;  
and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors;  
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever.  
Amen.**

*Following the Word with the Children, children and youth ages 4 through grade 8 will be dismissed  
for Sunday School.*

**PRAYER**

**CHORAL CALL TO PRAYER**

**Eternal Light**

*Leo Sowerby*

Eternal Light, shine into hearts,  
Eternal Goodness, deliver us from evil,  
Eternal Power, be our support,  
Eternal Wisdom, scatter the darkness of our ignorance,  
Eternal Pity, have mercy upon us,  
Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

**THANKSGIVING**

**\* HYMN 193**

**Jesus, Take Us to the Mountain**  
*Stanzas 1-3*

*Unser Herrscher*



## PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

*Our giving is an offering to God. All offerings, whether made in the worship service or outside of it, are part of our worship of God and are used to support the Kirk's ministry here and in other parts of the world.*

### \* PRAYER OF DEDICATION

#### ANTHEM

#### **Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies**

*T. Frederick*

Christ, whose glory fills the skies,  
Christ, the true, the only Light,  
Sun of righteousness, arise!  
Triumph o'er the shades of night:  
Dayspring from on high, be near;  
Daystar, in my heart appear.

Dark and cheerless is the morn  
Unaccompanied by thee;  
Joyless is the day's return,  
Till thy mercy's beams I see;  
Till thy inward light impart,  
Glad my eyes and warm my heart.

Visit, then, this soul of mine!  
Pierce the gloom of sin and grief!  
Fill me, Radiancy Divine;  
Scatter all my unbelief;  
More and more thyself display,  
Shining to the perfect day. Amen.

### \* DOXOLOGY

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
praise God, all creatures here below;  
praise God above, ye heavenly host;  
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

*Old Hundredth*

## WORD

#### CHORAL PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (10:30am)

*Gauntlett*

Lead us to Christ, the living Way,  
nor let us from his pastures stray.  
Lead us to holiness, the road  
that we must take to dwell with God,

#### SCRIPTURE READING

**Luke 9:28-43a**

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

#### SERMON

**Where God Leads: Transfiguration**

Rev. Chase Wilhelm

## SENDING

### \* HYMN 366

**Love Divine, All Loves Excelling**

*Hyfrydol*

#### CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

**CHORAL ORISON**

*He Leadeth Me*

He leadeth me: O blessed thought!  
O words with heavenly comfort fraught!  
Whate'er I do, where'er I be,  
Still 'tis God's hand that leadeth me.  
He leadeth me, he leadeth me;  
by his own hand he leadeth me:  
his faithful follower I would be,  
for by his hand he leadeth me.

**CLOSING VOLUNTARY**

**Jubilate Deo Omnis Terra**

*Dom Paul Benoit*

## Worship/Music Notes

Today we conclude our sermon series “Where God Leads” as worship opens with a prayer, *Lead us, heavenly Father*, for God to lead, guard and keep us through life’s trials. A plain chant melody harmonized by William Henry Monk, this ties in with another chant, a Russian orthodox Kyrie. The other service music for this sermon series, are prayers and assurance of God’s direction in our lives: the Choral Prayer for Illumination *Lead us to Christ, the living Way* and the Choral Orison *He Leadeth Me*.

**Stephen Ministers** are available for personal, confidential prayer in Melrose Chapel (to the left, when facing forward in the sanctuary) immediately following service each Sunday.

If you or someone you know is in need of prayer please contact Nancy Lau at 248-835-6691.



**Tour Kirk in the Hills each Sunday!** Those interested in a brief tour are asked to meet in the Baptistry, to the right of the Chancel, after the 10:30 a.m. service. See an usher for direction or further details.

**The flowers on the altar are presented to the glory of God** in loving memory of Nancy S. Hall and her parents, Hi and Dave Smucker, former active members of the Kirk, by her children Kristin Sliwicki of Illinois and Bill Hall of Florida. A Memorial Service for Nancy S. Hall is planned for May 14, 2022.

## About today's cover art

*Transfiguration* | Fra Angelico, 1450 | Public Domain

While a Dominican monk at San Marco’s monastery in Florence, Fra Angelico was commissioned to paint frescoes in the meeting rooms and dormitory cells of the lay brothers, novices, and clergy. With the help of assistants, he painted more than 40 frescoes at San Marco, most of them depicting scenes of Christ’s crucifixion. The *Transfiguration* was one of those paintings. The sparse fresco is intended to inspire its viewer to prayer and meditation.

**Join us for coffee and fellowship** in Heritage Hall after the 9:00 a.m. worship service!

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From left to right: Rev. Angela Ryo, Rev. Edwin Estevez, Rev. Kelsey Sorge



*We envision a world where every heart experiences God's transforming love.*



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