

**Worship at Home - Sunday 14th Feb, 2021
with Local Preacher, Mrs Jenny Brooks**

Call to Worship

God of Life, Glory and Transformation -
help us to know your Majesty and Love.

‘Song of the Transfiguration’–

Tune: Picardy “Let all mortal flesh keep silence”

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GDbvfkBAkw>

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,
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.

David Haas, 2001 - Musixmatch

A Prayer of Confession

God of Revelation and Epiphany,
help us to see you in all creation;
prompt us to take great care of all that
surrounds us.

Transforming God,
we ask that you help us to recognise our
mistakes and to make reparations.

Sometimes Lord, we make assumptions about
other people that may not be accurate.
Forgive us our foolishness;
restore us to a right relationship
with you and each other.

Amen.

Reading: Mark 9, verses 2-9

Meditation on the Transfiguration

What happened that day up on the mountain?
I'm still not sure, even now
Maybe it was the altitude addling the brain
Or perhaps the light playing tricks
But one moment we seemed to be looking at
Jesus –
And the next it was as if he were God himself,
His face radiant
His clothes dazzling white
His whole being bathed in light, too bright to
behold.
And that's not all,
For there beside him stood Moses and Elijah,
Epitomising the law and the prophets,
As though everything that had gone before - our
life, our faith, our history,
Had been leading up to this moment,
Finding fulfilment in this man standing before us.

We didn't grasp all that at first, of course
In fact we didn't grasp much-
Just stood there gawping... Awestruck!
Until I blurted out some nonsense about building
shelters for them all.
But we realised afterwards we'd been given a
glimpse of glory,
A sign that this man who we loved and followed
Was more special than we'd begun to imagine
Too special for words.

We wanted to stay there for ever,
To keep hold of that mountain top experience,
But life's not like that, sadly.
Like faith, it must be lived out in the daily routine
In this world of ups and downs,
Highs and lows, and believe me we were to
have those aplenty.
But whatever the trials we were later to face-the
depths of despair, suffering and human evil-
There was no way those could have the final
word.
We'd seen the light that day – Literally.
And it would never be extinguished

Reflection

The lectionary gives us the story of Transfiguration; a time to think about Jesus as God. Not only the baby, not just the child to whom the wise men brought gifts, not just the young man who went to Jerusalem and had a discussion with the teachers in the temple, not just the man who was baptised by John, but the whole view of Jesus as the Incarnation of God – the fulfilment of prophecy from Moses, through Elijah, to us learning about this again. Helping us to understand that this is God with us.

It's quite a big idea to understand and most of us don't understand fully what this is about, but sometimes images and different ideas, like the reflection we read earlier, help us to begin to make sense.

I would like us to look at an abstract painting by Armando Alemdar, an artist originally from Macedonia, now living in London.



The picture is called Transfiguration and it has this sense of movement of light, from the bottom of the picture going up towards the top. It starts with dark blues and browns, it becomes lighter, yellow and eventually white. I think that it is significant that there are 3 main points of light. Jesus, Moses and Elijah – and God is the point where they all come together. It's difficult with an abstract painting to know what is the artist's intention; maybe they don't have an agenda, maybe this is just an idea that came to them. But the whole of the picture feels to me like light and movement are shifting, moving, coming together.

Like the disciples Mark tells us of in the story of the Transfiguration, we can feel puzzled by

all of this and as we move forward into Lent. I would like to ask you to reflect on your understanding of Jesus as God and what that means for you in your daily life. Amen

Prayers of intercession:-

We bring to the Lord, those who we know who need His love and our support.

We remember especially all who are bereaved and those who are dying;
those for whom life is painful and dark.

We ask for peace of mind for all who are troubled.

We ask for sensitivity in our dealings with each other.

Show us, gracious God, how to be followers of your way.

The Lord's Prayer

StF 15 – How Great is Our God

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cKLQ1td3MbE>

The splendour of the king, clothed in majesty;
Let all the earth rejoice, all the earth rejoice.

He wraps Himself in light, and darkness tries to hide,
And trembles at His voice, and trembles at His voice.

*How great is our God, sing with me,
How great is our God, and all will see
How great, how great is our God.*

And age to age He stands, and time is in His hands;
Beginning and the End, Beginning and the End.

The Godhead, three in one, Father, Spirit, Son,
The Lion and the Lamb, the Lion and the Lamb.

Name above all names, worthy of all praise;
My heart will sing: how great is our God.

(Repeat)

Chris Tomlin, Jesse Reeves & Ed Cash Copyright © 2004)

The Grace

May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
the love of God and the fellowship
of the Holy Spirit be with us all, evermore.
Amen.



Join in across Lent for a fresh look at our vision for Christian discipleship. details from the Circuit Office

Service prepared by Jenny Brooks
sheet format – Phil Snelson

[Try our dial-up service to listen to the message and other elements of the worship today – 01604 266000](https://www.methodist.org.uk)