

**February 11, 2024
Transfiguration Sunday**



Mountain Landscape, Switzerland by Zinaida Serebriakova.

To join worship this morning via zoom app, click this link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83928727469?pwd=WFhzWkJFQjBhTlp4UEUvdWRhS2IKdz09>

(if you are asked for a password, it is: 890967). **To dial in by phone** call 1 312 626 6799. When prompted, enter **839 2872 7469#**. Next, you will be prompted to enter your participant ID or to push #; **simply push # again.**

Music will be displayed on the screen during the service.

Prelude

Welcome

Introit: "Come All You People" (trad. Shona)

Gathering Words: "Aimless Love" by Billy Collins

Prayer of Confession and Renewal

Hymn: "Transfigure Me" Please join in singing the refrain. A verse will be sung by the leader.

Scripture: Mark 9:2-9

Sung Response: “Transfigure Me” refrain

Time with Children

Stories of Belovedness Revealed: “Allegra Montanari, Steve Anthony, Rob Cooper

Before the storytelling begins, please join in the following response:

L: We will listen each other; **All:** **into our own true stories.**

After each story, please extend your hands, palms up. In some moments of quiet, we will breathe and receive the gift of this story. Then we will join in singing “Love Us into Fullness”

Reflection and Response: *During the quiet, you are invited to reflect or journal about a story of belovedness from your own life. Then there will be an opportunity folks to briefly share.*

Sung Response: “Love Us into Fullness”

Prayers of the People

Please share your prayer requests in the chat and we will pray with you.

Lord’s Prayer

A commonly used form is printed below. You are welcome to use the version most meaningful to you.

Our God, 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 for ever. Amen.

Offering

We invite your financial gifts to support our ministries within and beyond First Church is given to the Community Emergency Service food shelf as part of the MN Food Share March campaign. You can give electronically at our website: www.firstchurchmn.org; click on the “Support Us” link. You can also give by texting 612-255-4109: “\$(amount) Special” (for the monthly offering) or “\$(amount) General Fund. If you give by check, please make it out to First Church with “CES” in the memo line.

Offertory: Violin Concerto No. 3, Op. 61, first movement, Camille Saint-Saëns

Offertory Response: "Take, O Take Me as I Am" by John L. Bell

Prayer of Dedication

Announcements

Hymn 524: "This Little Light of Mine"

Benediction

Choral Benediction: "All You Works of the Lord, Bless the Lord," Kenneth Jennings

Postlude:

Thanks to those who serve in the following roles today:

Valet: Robert Payne

Usher: Marilyn Burns

Reader: Paul Snyder

Tech Support: Teresa Dyar, Maggie George

Coffee Hour: Tom and Linda Lincoln

Coming up this week

Sunday, Feb. 11

9:30a: Coffee hour

10a: Worship/Transfiguration Sunday (hybrid)

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83928727469?pwd=WFhzWkJFQjBhTlp4UEUvdWRhS2lKdz09>

11:15a: Coffee Hour

11:30a: Family Gathering

Monday, Feb. 12

9:30a: SE Playgroup

6p: Justice Team

Tuesday, Feb. 13

1p: Staff Meeting

Wednesday, Feb. 14

7p: Ash Wednesday Service (hybrid)

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83928727469?pwd=WFhzWkJFQjBhTlp4UEUvdWRhS2lKdz09>

7:45p: Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, Feb. 15

9:30a: SE Playgroup

Saturday, Feb. 17

9a: Volunteer Morning @CES

Sunday, Feb. 18

9:30a: Coffee hour

10a: Worship/Lent 1 (hybrid)

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83928727469?pwd=WFhzWkJFQjBhTlp4UEUvdWRhS2lKdz09>

11:15a: Coffee Hour

11:15a: Artist Reception (hybrid; stay on Zoom call)

Welcome to Rev. Kelly Gallagher, Associate Conference Minister, who is visiting our congregation today, representing the MN Conference UCC.

Join us for our Ash Wednesday Service on February 14 at 7p. This hybrid service includes time for confession, the imposition of ashes, and taking on our Lenten disciplines. All are welcome!

First Church Communications. For the next year, we will be experimenting with publishing *Chimes* quarterly. Our next edition will be this May. At the same time, we are working on developing a communications strategy. Our pastoral intern, Chris Bohnhoff, is bringing knowledge, skill, and leadership energy to this task. If you have ideas or want to volunteer to help us with communications in an ongoing way, please reach out to Chris.

Lenten small groups. During Lent this year we will again offer the opportunity to gather in small groups to learn, grow and build community. There will be three groups: "Sitting with our First Church Ancestors"; "The Conflict in Gaza"; and "Stories of Belovedness." More details and sign-up sheets are in the back of the sanctuary.

Artist's Reception on February 18. After worship the Art Team will host a reception for Cecilia Rolando, whose hangings are on exhibit in the

Gathering Hall. We will Zoom her in so that we can talk to her about her work Please join us!

Join our Carbon Club! The Justice Team is interested in leading a group within First Church in which we work together on lowering our carbon diet. This effort can take many forms. We might begin by listening to each other's stories about what we are already doing and then move into finding and developing practical resources and strategies. We don't want to be overly prescriptive about a structure; we will learn from what other congregations and nonprofits are doing and together we can develop an ongoing format. Please let Jane McBride or Paul Fate know if you are interested in learning more and/or participating. We are excited about the possibility to lower our carbon footprint and build community in the process.