

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
 Transfiguration of the Lord
 February 3, 2008

The Collect for Mediation & Personal Reflection

“Peter wanted to fix that transfiguring, mountaintop moment in concrete, seal it in epoxy for all time. But we can't. Glimpses like that come, and they go. When such a glimpse is given you, on a mountaintop in Judea or in a Sunday pew in this congregation, cherish it, but don't even try to capture it for it is a gift, a glimpse, a fleeting, blessed, gift of revelation.”

William Willimon

GATHERING

Prelude Michael Rorex
 Welcome & Concerns of the Church Richard Rose
 *Introit *God Is Here* Choir

*Call to Worship

L. On glory's mountaintops of wonder and delight, we wait:
P. for God's amazing grace to transform our shadowed lives.
 L. In the valleys of everyday life, where noise overwhelms us, we wait:
P. willing to waste time simply being in God's presence.
 L. In the devouring fires of fear, in the mist of misguided living, we wait,
P. for the One who comes in majesty, to lead us down the paths of humility.
All. Let us worship God!

*Prayer of Praise and Adoration

*Hymn *When Morning Gilds the Skies* #487

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

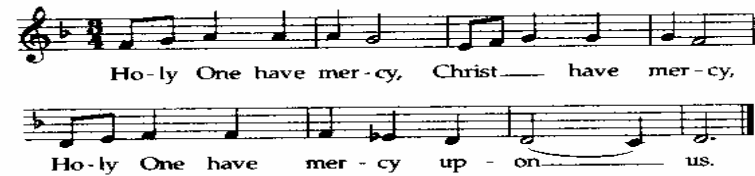
God of mountaintops, the noise of the world can harden our hearts to your Word. We watch news, reality TV, silly sitcoms, yet have trouble bearing witness to your presence in our lives. Our faith is placed in those who fail us, our trust is given to those who misplace it.

Forgive us, Revealer of Mystery. You offer mercy to us, that we might hear your call to discipleship. You whisper our names, that we might know how loved we are. Caught by the surprise of your never-ending love for us, how can we not follow our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, onto the mountaintops of worship and into the valleys of sacrifice and service.

Silent Prayers of Confession

Prayer Response

Song of Mercy



Assurance of Pardon

L. On mountaintops and in the valleys, in our homes and in our hearts, God knows us better than we know ourselves, and God forgives us when we cannot forgive ourselves.
P. By God's mercy, we are forgiven.
By God's mercy, we are made whole.
By God's mercy, we are equipped to serve others.
All. Thanks be to God. Amen.

*Pardon Response *The Gloria Patri* #579

*Sharing the Peace of Christ

(please share the "Peace of Christ" with those in the pews around you)

L. The peace of Christ be with you all.

P. And also with you.

THE WORD

Prayer for Illumination

Old Testament Reading	Exodus 24:12-18	O.T. p. 71
Epistle Reading	2 Peter 1:16-21	N.T. p. 226
Anthem	<i>A Song of Christ</i>	Choir
Gospel Reading	Matthew 17:1-9	N.T. p. 17

Sermon Rev. Muder
The Ups and Downs of Mountaintop Experiences

*Hymn *Jesus on the Mountain Peak* # 74

*Affirmation of Faith The Nicene Creed p. 14

EUCCHARIST

Offering of Ourselves and Our Gifts

*Stewardship Response *The Doxology* #592

*Prayer of Dedication

The Words of Institution

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

People of God, lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord our God.

People of God, give thanks to the One

who meets us on the mountaintops of glory
and in the valleys of service.

**It is good and right to give praise
to the One who is with us in every moment.**

Shaper of mountains...

...singing the ancient hymn of majesty and glory:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest.

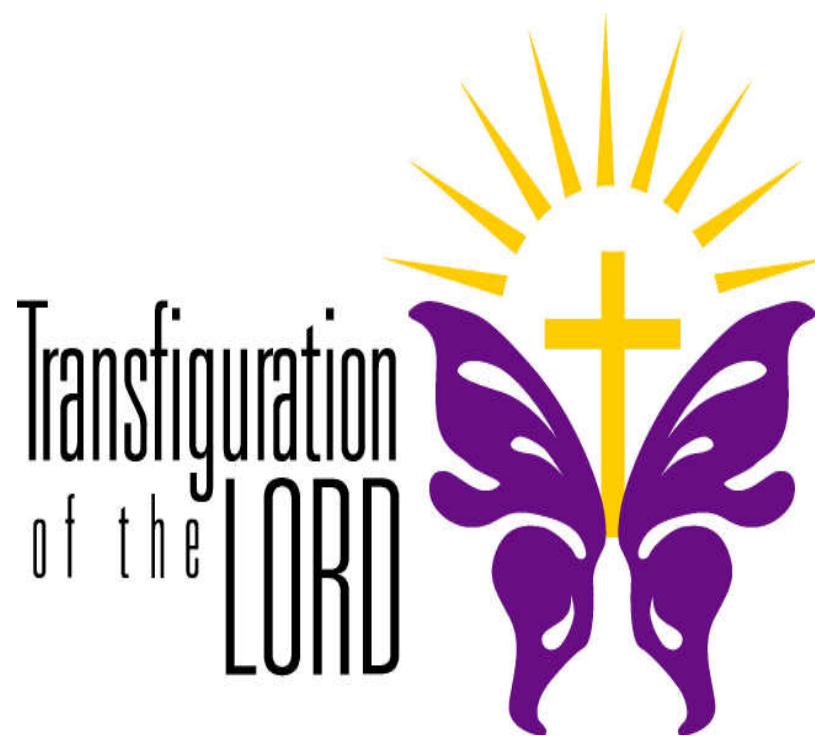
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Mighty God, lover of justice,..

...And so, we proclaim our faith as we come to your Table:

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
114 Bienville Street Natchitoches, LA
352-3016 Rev. Kathy Muder, Pastor
Church Website: www.fpcnatchitoches.org



Welcome to God's church! May you find refuge and encouragement as we worship the Lord. We especially welcome those who are worshipping with us for the first time and we appreciate your presence.

THIS WEEK

<i>Sunday</i>		<i>Souper Bowl of Caring 1st Sunday Lunch</i>
<i>Monday</i>		
<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>6:30pm</i>	<i>Disciple Bible Study</i>
<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>5:30 pm 6:30</i>	<i>Choir Practice Ash Wednesday Worship Service</i>
<i>Thursday</i>		
<i>Friday</i>		
<i>Saturday</i>		<i>Elections Sacramental Elder Training</i>
<i>Sunday</i>	<i>9:45 am 10:30 11:00 3:30pm 6:00</i>	<i>Sunday School Social Time Worship Service COM Triennial Visit Taizé Service</i>

Next Week

Lay Assistant – Amelia Hall
Elder Prayer – Fred Hunt
Refreshments – Evans

Lectionary Next Week

Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7
Psalm 32; Romans 5:12-19
Matthew 4:1-11

Prayer List

At Home: Harbert Smith Jr., Susie Lam, Glenda LaCaze, Brenda Ebert, Iris Saez, Clint Gibson, Brenda Page, Vickie Crawford, Evelyn Hinshaw, Ron Corkern, Ann Maechling, Dolly Kroesen, Donna Beauboeuf, Carrie James, Gail Procell, James Verret, Bill Spooner, Jim Hart, Kimberly Crawford, Hurst Hall, Raybon Raines, Helen MacKaskill, Rob Lockwood, Scotti Vermaelen, John Parsons, Barb Mahoney, Ken Culverson, Jon Kerstetter, Mary McConahey, Judy East, John Shaw, Tom Murchison, John Price, Lou Archibald, Rev. Bud Green, Catherine Donahue, Susan Berndt, Kayla Barras, Everett Morgan, Jim Welch, Patrick Robinson, Chris Manning, Byron Bissell, Charles Brown, Renee Fontenot, Susan Moreno, Rodney Blackwell, Bob Wynn.

Hospital: Ada Jarred, Brent Rascoe, Nicholas Pruitt.

Nursing Home: Bob Giesey, Jack Starnes (Natchitoches Parish Long-Term Care), Marge MacKenzie (Heritage Manor).

In the Military: Ben Aton, David Evans, Mike Black, Eric Maxwell, Tim Evans, Matt Williams, Mac Davis, Kevin Hall, David Coleman, Scott Tipple, John Hatley, Mark Jeansonne, Joshua Hogan, Sean Lawson, Brian Johnson, Regan Ammons, Stephen Lawson, James Gelston, Greg Hemelt, Phillip Brown.

Law Enforcement: Cary Hargrove, Stan Williams

Christ has died,
Christ is risen,
Christ will come again.

Descend upon us, Holy Spirit,...

Prayers of Intercession

The Lord's Prayer

Breaking of the Bread

Communion of the People

Prayer After Communion

SENDING

*Hymn *Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ* # 536

*Benediction

L. Be as attentive to what you have heard and seen as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts.

P. **God said, "This is my Son, my Beloved, with whom I am well pleased."**

L. May your hearts be filled with the glory of this wonderful news.

P. **Our hearts are overflowing; we will tell of the glory of Jesus Christ.**

L. Let us go to the mountain with Jesus. Amen.

* Choral Response Choir

***Please stand as able**

Begin your Lenten journey by worshiping with us at 6:30 Wednesday night. The service will include the imposition of ashes.