



FEBRUARY 14, 2021

## TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD

### Opening Voluntary

Chorale Trio on *Allein Gott in der Höh sei Ehr*  
BWV 664

Johann Sebastian Bach  
(1685-1750)

### Introit

*Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies*

Allan Robert Petker  
(b. 1955)

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,  
'Til they inward light impart, cheer 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.

— words by Charles Wesley (1707-1788)

### Opening Sentences

#### Hymn 193 ([see page 6](#))

*Jesus, Take Us to the Mountain*

UNSER HERRSCHER

### Prayer of Confession

Gracious God,  
our skittishness of your shining vision prevents us  
and distracts us from beholding your glowing grace.

God, who from before all creation  
has loved us and promised us life forever,  
we turn from you ignoring our true and imperfect selves.

God of tender mercy, reveal again to us our own sin.  
We are consumed by our own fire of judgment.  
Capture our tears, bundle up our excuses, and surround us with your glory.  
Return to us your vision of yourself and, in that reflection, a truer vision of ourselves.

*Silent prayer*

Holy One, in your mercy. **Hear our prayer.**

### Declaration of Forgiveness

Believe in the Good News. **In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.**

## Response

Fintan O'Carroll



MUSIC: Fintan O'Carroll, 1981 ©

## The Peace

Peace be with you. **Peace be with all.**

## Prayer of Illumination

### First Reading

2 Corinthians 4:3-6

Holy wisdom, holy word. **Thanks be to God.**

### Handbell Mediation

*Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies*

RATISBON • arranged by Jason Krug  
(b. 1978)

### Gospel Reading

Mark 9:2-9

Holy wisdom, holy word. **Thanks be to God.**

### Solo

*Then Sings My Soul*

Mary McDonald  
(b. 1956)

O Lord, my God, when I in awesome wonder  
consider all the works thy hands hath made,  
I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder,  
thy pow'r throughout the universe displayed;

When through the woods and forest glades I wander,  
I hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees,  
when I look down from lofty mountain grandeur  
and hear the brook and feel the gentle breeze.

#### REFRAIN

*Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to thee:  
how great thou art, how great thou art!  
Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to thee:  
how great thou art, how great thou art!*

And when I think that God, his Son not sparing,  
sent him to die, I scarce can take it in,  
that on the cross, my burden gladly bearing,  
he bled and died to take away my sin.

When Christ shall come with shout of acclamation,  
and take me home, what joy shall fill my heart!  
Then I shall bow in humble adoration,  
and there proclaim, "My God, how great thou art!" **REFRAIN**

— original Swedish hymn text (*O store Gud*) by Carl Gustav Boberg (1859–1940)  
translated © by Stuart K. Hine (1899–1989)

Sermon

*Then Everything Changes*

Kallie Pitcock

**Hymn 673** (verses 1 and 3) ([see page 7](#))*Jesus, Light of Joy*

LAUDA ANIMA

**Litany for Transfiguration of the Lord**

Blessed is the Lord our God,  
who revealed the law to Moses.

**The Lord our God is holy!**

Blessed is the Lord our God,  
who has spoken through the prophets.

**The Lord our God is holy!**

Blessed is the Lord our God,  
who came to us in Jesus Christ.

**The Lord our God is holy!**

The one who spoke and called light out of darkness  
now shines in our hearts.

**The Lord our God is holy!**

The one who comes and does not keep silence  
now speaks in our midst.

**The Lord our God is holy!**

Now we have seen the glory of God  
in the face of Jesus Christ.

**The Lord our God is holy!**

**Prayers of the People****The Lord's Prayer**

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.

**Hymn 744** ([see page 8](#))*Arise, Your Light Is Come*

FESTAL SONG

**Charge and Blessing****Closing Voluntary**

*Allein Gott in der Höh sei Ehr*  
BWV 715

J. S. Bach

## WORSHIP NOTES

The Transfiguration of the Lord is marked on the Sunday before Ash Wednesday when the fasting of Lent begins. In the gospels, the transfiguration represents a transition in Jesus' ministry after which he sets his face towards Jerusalem, where suffering and death await. The mysterious holiness of the transfiguration points us to the divine majesty of Christ that cannot be eclipsed by the cross.

### Lectionary Readings

- 2 Kings 2:1-12 — *After crossing the Jordan, Elijah ascends to heaven in a chariot.*
- Psalm 50:1-6 — *From the storm and fire, God calls: Gather up my faithful ones.*
- 2 Corinthians 4:3-6 — *We know the glory of God through the face of Jesus Christ.*
- Mark 9:2-9 — *On a high mountain with Moses and Elijah, Jesus is transfigured.*

## SERVING TODAY

### Liturgists

Keatan King | Omar Rouchon | John Wurster

### Musicians

Cecilia Duarte, cantor & soloist

Lee Ardell, Steve Carmichael, Elizabeth Duerr, Jane Malczewsky\*,

Bonnie Moore, and Diana Weiss — Bell Canto Members \*directing

Matthew Dirst, organist | Randall Swanson, pianist

## MUSIC NOTES

**Organ music** — Today's **organ voluntaries** are both settings of the German chorale "All Glory Be to God on High," an appropriate sentiment for the Sunday when we commemorate Christ's transfiguration on the mountaintop. Bach paraphrased the hymn melody in a whirling trio (BWV 664), with the tune finally entering in slow notes in the bass at the very end, while his *organo pleno* arrangement (BWV 715) presents the tune as it might accompany congregational singing, with a some fancy organ interludes between phrases.

**Vocal music** — This morning's **introit** — *Christ Whose Glory Fills the Skies* — features Charles Wesley's well-known text set to new music in 1986 by Allan Robert Petker, who is conductor of the California-based Consort Chorale in the San Francisco Bay area, Santa Clarita Master Chorale, and Los Cancioneros Master Chorale in Torrence. • Today's **solo** features the text of the much-beloved hymn *How Great Thou Art* in a

new setting by American composer and pianist Mary McDonald. The text is a translation by Stuart K. Hine of an earlier hymn in Swedish — *O store Gud* — by Carl Gustav Boberg, who was a Swedish poet and elected official active in the Mission Covenant Church of Sweden.

**Handbell music** — Music during The Peace this morning is a brief hymn-tune arrangement by Indianapolis-based composer Jason Krug, who has written over 400 handbell compositions, as well as other works for piano, organ, choir, and string orchestra. Krug's setting of *Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies* is written for a small handbell ensemble of just six ringers. Many thanks to members of Bell Canto for their joy-filled ringing this morning!

— Matthew Dirst and Randall Swanson

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Art by Kallie Pitcock.

Opening Hymn 193 *Jesus, Take Us to the Mountain* text © Concordia Publishing House. All rights reserved. Declaration of Forgiveness Response © Fintan O'Carroll, administered by The Liturgical Press. All rights reserved. Solo *Then Sings My Soul* text © The Stuart Hine Trust, print rights administered by Hope Publishing Company. All rights reserved. Sermon Hymn 673 *Jesus, Light of Joy* text © David Gambrell, administered by Presbyterian Publishing Corporation. All rights reserved. Closing Hymn 744 *Arise, Your Light Is Come* text © GIA Publications, Inc. All rights reserved. All reprinted with permission under OneLicense.net account A-720890.

## ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING TODAY

The Session has called the annual meeting of the congregation today immediately following the 11:00 a.m. worship service. The meeting will be held via Zoom. The agenda includes the annual report for 2020, presentation of the approved budget for 2021, and a vote on changes to the pastors' terms of call.

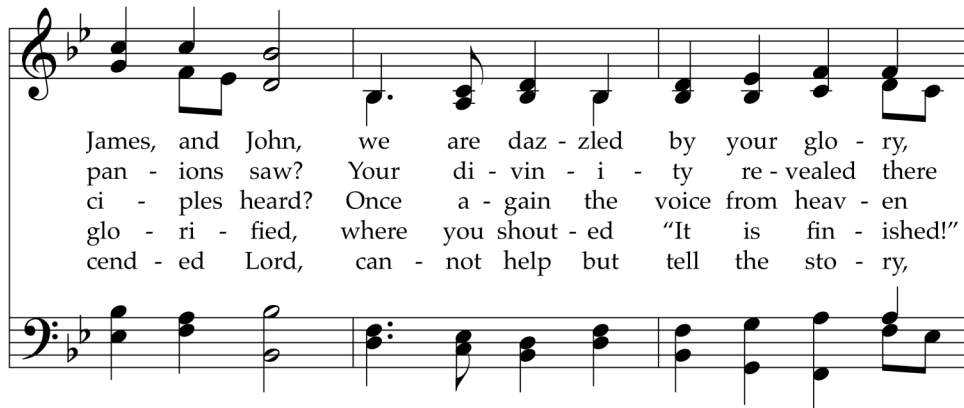
## Opening Hymn 193

*Jesus, Take Us to the Mountain*

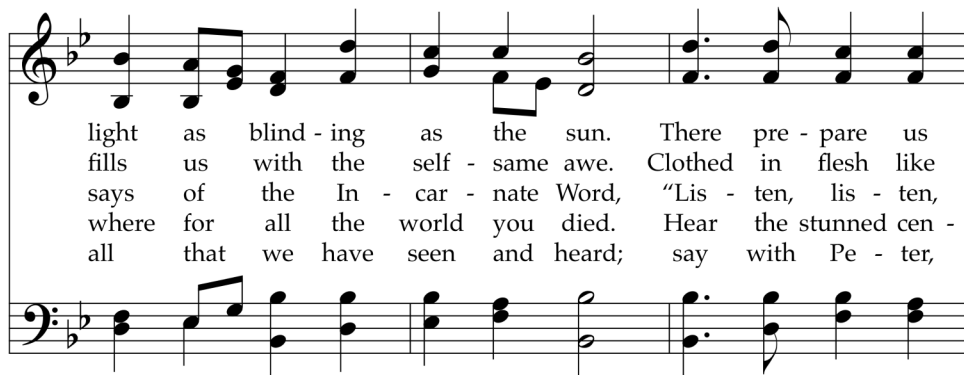
UNSER HERRSCHER



1 Je - sus, take us to the moun - tain, where, with Pe - ter,  
 2 What do you want us to see there, that your close com -  
 3 What do you want us to hear there, that your dear dis -  
 4 Take us to that oth - er moun - tain where we see you  
 5 We who have be - held your glo - ry, ris - en and as -



James, and John, we are daz - zled by your glo - ry,  
 pan - ions saw? Your di - vin - i - ty re - vealed there  
 ci - ples heard? Once a - gain the voice from heav - en  
 glo - ri - fied, where you shout - ed "It is fin - ished!"  
 cend - ed Lord, can - not help but tell the sto - ry,



light as blind - ing as the sun. There pre - pare us  
 fills us with the self - same awe. Clothed in flesh like  
 says of the In - car - nate Word, "Lis - ten, lis - ten,  
 where for all the world you died. Hear the stunned cen -  
 all that we have seen and heard; say with Pe - ter,




for the night by the vi - sion of that sight.  
 ours you go, matched to meet our dead - liest foe.  
 ev - ery - one: this is my be - lov - ed Son."  
 tur - i - on: "Tru - ly this was God's own Son!"  
 James, and John: "You are God's be - lov - ed Son!"

Some version of the Transfiguration (Matthew 17:1–9/Mark 9:2–9/Luke 9:28–36) is always read on the last Sunday after the Epiphany. In this text that foretaste of Christ's glorification helps to prepare Peter, James, and John for their roles as proclaimers of "God's beloved Son."



1 Je - sus, light of joy, sur - round us; let your splen - did  
2 With the saints we lift our voic - es, God of pow - er,



glo - ry shine: source of ev - ery earth - ly bles - sing,  
God of might. All cre - a - tion shines with glo - ry,



heav - en's ev - er - last - ing sign. Al - le - lu - ia,  
sing - ing prais - es day and night: al - le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia, we a - dore you, light di - vine.  
al - le - lu - ia, ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly light.

The images of light in this text are drawn from the ancient Christian vesper hymn *Phos hilaron*, which dates from at least the 3rd century. (For other versions, see nos. 671 and 672.) That rather brief original hymn is augmented here in the third stanza by language based on the *Sanctus*.

TEXT: David Gambrell, 2009

MUSIC: John Goss, 1869

Text © 2011 David Gambrell (admin. Presbyterian Publishing Corp.)

LAUDA ANIMA

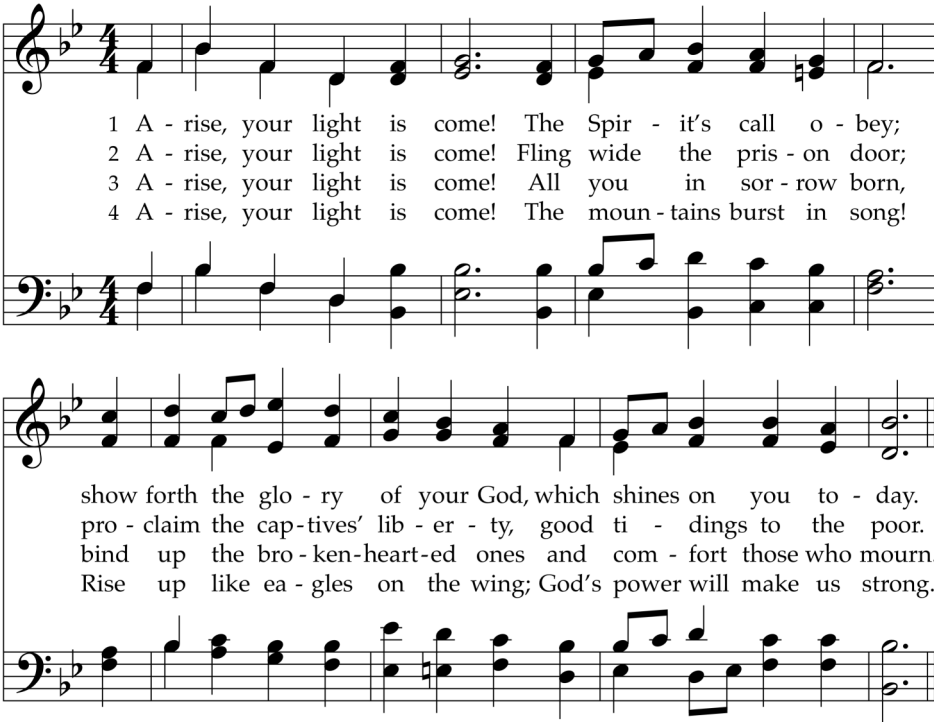
8.7.8.7.8.7

[Return to bulletin](#)

## Closing Hymn 744

*Arise, Your Light Is Come*

FESTAL SONG



1 A - rise, your light is come! The Spir - it's call o - bey;  
 2 A - rise, your light is come! Fling wide the pris - on door;  
 3 A - rise, your light is come! All you in sor - row born,  
 4 A - rise, your light is come! The moun - tains burst in song!

show forth the glo - ry of your God, which shines on you to - day.  
 pro - claim the cap - tives' lib - er - ty, good ti - dings to the poor.  
 bind up the bro - ken-heart-ed ones and com - fort those who mourn.  
 Rise up like ea - gles on the wing; God's power will make us strong.

Echoing imagery from Isaiah 61:1-2 and other passages, this text was created as an inclusive-language alternative to an older hymn using this late 19th-century tune. Because it is a song of encouragement rather than a song of praise, it is not directed to God but to people.

TEXT: Ruth Duck, 1974  
 MUSIC: William H. Walter, 1894  
 Text © 1992 GIA Publications, Inc.

FESTAL SONG  
 SM

[Return to bulletin](#)



## IN OUR PRAYERS

*St. Philippians and their families*—Pat Lindsay; Mary Margaret Hansen; Doris Cantrell; Ellen MacDonald; Arlette Keene; CJ Miller; Jan Ostendorf; Vicki McKay; Marion Takehara; Emily Estill; Travis Calhoun; Mezgebe Gebray; Dixie Hahn—Sister of Mary Sinderson; Brad Davis—nephew of Sam Fisher; Kenneth Allan Henick—father of Anne Marie Benard; Douglas Everhart—brother of Nancy Everhart Johnson; Carol Paine Kendrick—sister of Stephen Paine; Betty Grant—sister-in-law of Eleanor Grant; John Anderson—brother of Tom Anderson; Janet Fisher—sister-in-law of Dan Cleveland; Bessie Johnson—mother of Pat Lindsay; Mac & Beverly Wilson—parents of Butch Wilson; Vera Moore—mother of Chuck Johnson; Kelsey Higgs Gallegos & family—daughter of Nancy Higgs; Dottie Laas and family—cousin of Sam Fisher; Alice Barron—sister-in-law to Beth Atkinson; Shirley Boggus—grandmother of Omi Ford; Jimmy Reagan—father of Sarah O'Dell; Dona Rowe—mother of William Rowe; and Elizabeth Carlton Lithio—granddaughter of Jeanie Flowers.

*Homebound*—Sue Baier; Walter Baker; Joe Anne Berwick; John Bobbitt; Paulie Carlson; Kitty Curry; George Helland; Jean Nelson; Alice Pennington; Joyce Randolph; Mary Sinderson; Jody Tomforde; and Penny Vieau.

*Friends of St. Philippians*—Jack Burrell—friend of Stephen Paine; Shirley Stubblefield—friend of Barbara Runge; Paul Ratliff—friend of Jo Helland; Bill McDonald and Jackson Tavel—friends of Curt and Sharon Webb; Cecil Trent—friend of Jane Cooper; David Shebay—friend of Greg Han; Clayton Amacker—friends of Peg Palisin and Gary Gardner; and Walter "Buddy" Hammann III friend of Robin and Gary Willis.

*We also pray for health care workers, first responders, and caregivers; for those who are sick; and for those watch and wait.*

If you have a pastoral care need or a prayer request you would like to share, please email [deacons@saintphilip.net](mailto:deacons@saintphilip.net).

Pledge payments, communion gifts and other gifts to support the Church can be made anytime through our website (<http://saintphilip.net/>) or sent to the Church Office at 4807 San Felipe, Houston, TX 77056.



## UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

**We continue to invite you to attend our daily prayer services at 11:00 a.m. (Monday-Saturday).** Currently, we have a limit of five persons per day. Please enter the Sanctuary through the large wooden front doors by 10:50 a.m. You may bring your own face-mask or one will be provided. You may sit anywhere in the sanctuary, appropriately distanced from others. The service will conclude by 11:15.

[Our website](#) has information a current list of **opportunities on Zoom** for fellowship and spiritual formation.

**CHURCH & SOCIETY - 9:30 a.m. — February 21** - A St. Philip Mission Partner - Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary - What does living the faith look like today? As the answers-and questions- shift, one thing remains clear: the world needs adaptable, imaginative Christian leaders to help heal our fractured communities and to lead faith into the future. Presented by Rev. Dr. Rose Eileen Niles - Development, Church Outreach APTS and "Recollections of My Days as an APTS Theology Student" Rev. Kallie Pitcock, St. Philip Pastoral Resident. Email Mickey Meyers if you would like to join any of the classes — [mmcgm63@gmail.com](mailto:mmcgm63@gmail.com).

**FAITH OF A CHILD**—Join with fellow St. Philippians in a season of discipleship: Kallie Pitcock is facilitating a twice weekly zoom group Sunday and Wednesday at 9:30 a.m. You can attend the Sunday or the Wednesday session as your schedule permits. Lessons are stand alone, so you can join at any point. Email Kallie to receive more information and updates: [kallie@saintphilip.net](mailto:kallie@saintphilip.net). The theme of the series is FAITH OF A CHILD: *approaching God with wonder, curiosity, and imagination*. Each week is built around a question submitted by participants or gathered by Kallie. Let us draw together and closer to God asking: how, why, who, when, so what?!



# Duerr Lecture Series

## Schedule of Events

**Sunday, February 21**

11:00 a.m. Worship  
(Streamed at [saintphilip.net](http://saintphilip.net))

*The Witness of Reconciliation in the Age of  
Polarization*

Genesis 33:1-11  
Colossians 3:12-17

7:00 p.m.  
Live Webinar

*Effective Speech in the Bible and in Our Age  
of Polarization*

Lecture is free and open to everyone.

Registration for the Lecture  
is required.

Information found at:

[http://saintphilip.net/Duerr\\_LectureSeries.html](http://saintphilip.net/Duerr_LectureSeries.html)

Presents

**Dr. Samuel L. Adams**

*Effective Speech in the  
Bible and in  
Our Age of Polarization*



Speaker for the 24th annual Duerr Lecture Series will be Dr. Samuel L. Adams, the Mary Jane and John F. McNair Chair in Biblical Studies at Union Presbyterian Seminary. He holds a Ph.D. from Yale University, a Master of Divinity from the University of Chicago, and a B.A. (History) from Davidson College. He is an ordained Teaching Elder in the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) and has served churches in Chicago, New Haven, and Richmond.

His publications include a comprehensive study on wisdom literature past and present (with Matthew Goff), recently published, and a book, *Wisdom in Transition: Act and Consequence in Second Temple Instructions*, examining conceptions of retribution, death, and the afterlife in Jewish instructions. Another research area is wealth and poverty in the biblical world and today. His book, *Social and Economic Life in Second Temple Judea*, Westminster John Knox, 2014, looks at economic life in the Bible and beyond. Other interests include apocalypticism, the Dead Sea Scrolls, the Bible and film, and the Bible and Christian theology in the context of American political discourse. Adams' background includes a career in politics prior to graduate school and serving as a teacher at a Church of South India college. He is editor of the seminary's journal, *Interpretation*.

## The Duerr Lecture Series

### Statement of Purpose

The Duerr Lecture Series was established in memory of W. Chris Duerr, member and elder of St. Philip Presbyterian Church, Houston. As part of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) and the Reformed Tradition, the lectures focus upon speakers and subjects that will enhance Christian faith in light of that tradition. Challenging speakers are chosen from the fields of theology, Bible and preaching to inspire and equip congregants for deeper faith and service.

### Endowment

Gifts and bequests to the Duerr Lecture Endowment may be made in memory or honor of individuals or groups, or in commemoration of special occasions. Contributions may be made by check or online at [www.saintphilip.net](http://www.saintphilip.net); choose 'Make a Contribution' on the first screen, then select the fund for the "Duerr Lect. Series."