



Midweek Service of Word, Song and Prayer

Introduction

Witnesses to the glory of God in the face of Jesus reflect that glory in the world. It was true for Moses. It was true for Peter, James, and John. We pray that it will be true of all of us who see God's glory in the word and in the meal and who are being "transformed into the same image" by God's Spirit.

Opening Prayer

Holy God, mighty and immortal, you are beyond our knowing, yet we see your glory in the face of Jesus Christ. Transform us into the likeness of your Son, who renewed our humanity so that we may share in his divinity, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Readings

Exodus 34

²⁹Moses came down from Mount Sinai. As he came down from the mountain with the two tablets of the covenant in his hand, Moses did not know that the skin of his face shone because he had been talking with God.

How do you reflect the light of God in your world?

Luke 9

²⁹And while Jesus was praying, the appearance of his face changed, and his clothes became dazzling white.

How has prayer changed you over the years?

Reflection for the Day

Lifting the Veil

The transfiguration is frustrating for disciples—past and present—who long for the presence of God. Jesus' glory is revealed, and then, just as suddenly, a cloud descends and the vision fades. And even though Paul contrasts the Christian's experience of God with Moses's veiled experience of God, he notes that we see the glory of the Lord "as though reflected in a mirror" (2 Cor. 3:18). Even with unveiled faces, we don't see directly, or even clearly. Even when God is revealed in shining glory, much remains veiled and hidden.

As he witnesses Jesus' transfiguration, Peter's understanding remains veiled; ours does too. The veils we contend with daily are the barriers that prevent us from caring for others, caring for creation, and seeing the shining face of Jesus in the faces of people who are different, hungry, difficult, opposing,

invisible, or poor. God is always revealed in ways that surprise and confuse us, whether shining on the mountaintop or dying on the cross.

Hymn of the Day Shine Jesus Shine – Graham Kendrick

Apostle's Creed

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended to the living,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

Closing Prayer

O God, you have called your servants to ventures of which we cannot see the ending, by paths as yet untrodden, through perils unknown. Give us faith to go out with good courage, not knowing where we go, but only that your hand is leading us and your love supporting us; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Blessing

Let us bless the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Dismissal

Almighty God bless us, defend us from all evil, and bring us to everlasting life. **Amen.**