

acquire the mind of Christ and follow him faithfully on the mountains and in the valleys of life as we await his return in glory. Amen.

THE DISTRIBUTION OF THE ELEMENTS

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

All: Gracious God, we thank you for the bread and cup and for all that you touch and bless. Grant that we might always appreciate the mystery of your presence in the simple and ordinary things of life. Amen.

HYMN *Shine, Jesus, Shine* **Bulletin Insert**

COMMISSION & BENEDICTION

Pastor: In the power of the Holy Spirit, we now go forth into the world, to fulfil our calling as the people of God, as the body of Christ. Go in peace, love and care for one another in Christ's name, and may the Lord our God - Father, the Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you and keep you - both now and forevermore.

All: Amen.

POSTLUDE

February 19, 2023
Transfiguration Sunday

GREETINGS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP

Pastor: Christ, our Provider, we walked into church today needing you in different ways.

All: Some of us need strength because we are facing a big challenge.

Pastor: Some of us need hope because we feel like giving up.

All: Some of us need love because we are feeling alone.

Pastor: We trust that you will provide for us, whether through words or music, or in a quiet moment of reflection.

All: You are here, O Christ. You are with us. Amen.

HYMN

O Christ, the Healer

Unison

1 O Christ, the heal - er, we have come to
2 From ev - ery ail - ment flesh en - dures our
3 In con - flicts that de - stroy our health we
4 Grant that we all, made one in faith, in

pray for health, to plead for friends. How can we fail to be re-
bod - ies clam - or to be freed. Yet in our hearts we would con-
rec - og - nize the world's dis - ease; Our com - mon life de - clares our
your com - mu - ni - ty may find. The whole - ness that, en - rich - ing

stored when reached by love that nev - er ends?
fess that whole - ness is our deep - est need.
ills. Is there no cure, O Christ, for these?
us, shall reach and pros - per hu - man - kind.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

All: Almighty God, even as we tremble in your presence, we rejoice in your willingness to live among and within us. Forgive us when we act as if we can separate ourselves from your powerful presence. Forgive us when we hide ourselves from you, forgetting that in you, nothing is hidden. Lift our eyes to see your glory. Lift our hearts to receive your grace. Lift our lives to reflect the mountain of your love, that we may shine for all to see. In your glory and grace, we pray. Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Pastor: Don't be afraid. We are beloved children of God. We belong to a God whose love and grace always draw us to our home in God.

HYMN OF PRAISE

PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

A SPECIAL TIME WITH OUR CHILDREN

HYMN *Standing on the Promises of God* Bulletin Insert

OLD TESTAMENT READING – Joshua 2:1-24

EPISTLE READING – 2 Peter 1:16-21

GOSPEL READING – Matthew 17:1-9

SERMON Rev. Laura C. Baker

PASTORAL PRAYER & THE LORD'S PRAYER

All: 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.

OFFERING INVITATION

Liturgist: Jesus' entire life is a demonstration of committed generosity and stewardship. We too, are called to present our lives as a gift to the God who has created us and the world that needs what we have to offer in time, talent, and money. Let us reveal the glory of God by the giving of our good gifts as we dedicate it with a song and prayer.

HYMN *We Give Thee but Thine Own* (Verse 1, only) Hymnal, #258

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Liturgist: Generous God, may these gifts bring you glory and honor and meet the needs of your people. In the name of Jesus, we pray. Amen.

ANTHEM

Oh, What a Wonderful Name

Chancel Choir

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you.
Congregation: And also, with you.
Pastor: Lift up your hearts.
Congregation: We lift them up to the Lord.
Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
Congregation: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

Pastor: Loving God, in many and various ways you have visited and redeemed your people - sending us your Son, Jesus. We thank you, God, for sending him to us. We thank you for the example that he set for us - how he rejoiced with those who rejoiced and wept with those who wept. We praise you for the power and the love that you displayed through him - for how he spoke words of hope to the despairing and to the sick he gave healing, and to the rejected he became a friend. It is with sorrow, O God, that we recall how, because of our sin, he was betrayed and nailed to a cross. Yet O God, your plan was not frustrated by this evil - and your mercy was not thwarted. We thank you, Lord, for how you lifted Jesus from the grave and restored him to life - that he might be with us and we with him - a forgiven people - alive for all eternity. With all the saints and angels in heaven, we thank you for the salvation that he brought to us and to your world, saying:

All: Holy, holy, holy, Lord, God of power and might; Heaven and earth are full of your glory; Hosanna in the highest! Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest!

Pastor: Blessed indeed, O God, is the One who comes in your name - Christ Jesus, your Son. We thank you for the love you have poured out, upon us, through him and we remember how that love was first shown to us. We recall how on the night that Jesus was betrayed he took bread, and gave you thanks (as even now, we thank you, O Lord, for this bread), and then broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take, all of you, and eat. This is my body, broken for you."

We recall how, in the same way, when the meal was over, Jesus took the cup of blessing, and after giving you thanks, gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take, all of you and drink. This is my blood, the new covenant, poured out for you and for all, for the forgiveness of sins. Do this in remembrance of me."

Pastor: Loving God, send your Holy Spirit upon us and this bread and cup - that they may be for us the body and the blood of Christ Jesus. Grant that what we do here that we do here may strengthen and sustain us and that we may