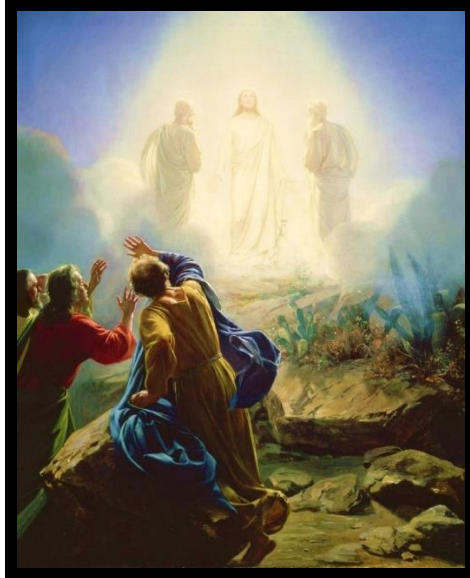


SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2022

Caldwell United Methodist Church, 8 Academy Road, Caldwell, N. J. 07006
Rev. Vivian L. Rodeffer, Pastor

TRANSFIGURATION SUNDAY

Ms. Maxine Alstrom, Music Director



WELCOME AND INVOCATION

Pastor Viv

Lord, it seems so long ago that we heard your words at Jesus' baptism. You reminded us that he is your beloved Son with whom you are well pleased. Again today we hear your words that we are to listen to him, to pay attention. Open our hearts this day, Lord, to hear the words of Jesus, to follow in his footsteps, and to serve You. For we ask this in Christ's Name. Amen.

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Lord, you have called us to the mountaintop.

Help us to look forward to where you would have us go.

Help us to listen carefully to the words of your healing love.

Open our hearts and spirits to receive your glorious directions.

Place your trust in the Lord in all your ways.

Lord, we have come here to give our lives to you.

***HYMN #185**

"When Morning Gilds the Skies"

1. When morning gilds the skies my heart awakening cries:

**May Jesus Christ be praised! Alike at work and prayer,
to Jesus I repair: May Jesus Christ be praised!**

2. The night becomes as day when from the heart we say:

**May Jesus Christ be praised! The powers of darkness fear
When this sweet chant they hear: May Jesus Christ be praised!**

**3. Let all the earth around ring joyous with the sound:
May Jesus Christ be praised! In heaven's eternal bliss
the loveliest strain is this: May Jesus Christ be praised!**

**4. Be this, while life is mine, my canticle divine:
May Jesus Christ be praised! Be this th' eternal song
through all the ages long: May Jesus Christ be praised!**

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

We confess to you and to one another the many ways we fail to live the lives you want for us. We make ourselves busy with many things, and neglect to listen to your voice. All too often we see the worst in the world around us, and look past your signs of hope. We are quick to voice our dissent with one another, and refuse to see your face in the persons with whom we disagree. We focus on our own hurts, anger, and disappointments, and close our hearts to your transforming grace.

O Holy Light of the world, forgive us. Open our eyes to your endless possibilities, Give us courage to listen for your call to us, Take our hearts of stone, and make them new again with your holy love.

Time of silent confession

Assurance of Pardon:

Do not be afraid. God's light has come into the world and has scattered the darkness; the morning star rises in our hearts. Rejoice! For God does not hold our sins against us, but embraces us as God's own beloved. **Amen.**

SCRIPTURE

LUKE 9: 28-36

Joan Olszewski, Reader

28 Now about eight days after these sayings Jesus took with him Peter and John and James, and went up on the mountain to pray. 29 And while he was praying, the appearance of his face changed, and his clothes became dazzling white. 30 Suddenly they saw two men, Moses and Elijah, talking to him. 31 They appeared in glory and were speaking of his departure, which he was about to accomplish at Jerusalem. 32 Now Peter and his companions were weighed down with sleep; but since they had stayed awake they saw his glory and the two men who stood with him. 33 Just as they were leaving him, Peter said to Jesus, "Master, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah"—not knowing what he said. 34 While he was saying this, a cloud came and overshadowed them; and they were terrified as they entered the cloud. 35 Then from the cloud came a voice that said, "This is my Son, my Chosen; listen to him!" 36 When the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone. And they kept silent and in those days told no one any of the things they had seen.

The word of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God.**

SPECIAL MUSIC

“Take My Life and Let It Be”

arr. David H. Williams

THE MESSAGE

THROUGH JESUS’ EYES: SEEING THE ANCESTORS

“Suddenly they saw two men, Moses and Elijah, talking to him.” v.30

DEDICATION OF OUR COMMITMENT CARDS

RESPONSIVE PRAYER

O God, in whose every creation we discover a gift freely given: help us to understand that all we have comes from the outpouring of your generosity. Inspire in our hearts a deep sense of gratitude, and move us to share what we have received with the same immensity of spirit in which it was given.

Lead us, we pray, to give as we have received—abundantly, generously, and joyfully—that our common ministry may continue to bear witness to your unfailing grace.

Teach us, we pray, that in giving we receive. Accept and bless these pledges offered for the mission and ministry of Caldwell United Methodist Church.

Bless those who have offered them to you in thanksgiving for all the ways in which you bless us and our community of faith. Give us courage, insight and grace to use these gifts to nourish your people and to proclaim the reconciling work of God in Christ. Amen.

HYMN

“God Whose Giving Knows No Ending”

NETTLETON

**1. God, whose giving knows no ending, from your rich and endless store:
nature's wonder, Jesus' wisdom, costly cross, grave's shattered door,
gifted by you, we turn to you, offering up ourselves in praise;
thankful song shall rise forever, gracious donor of our days.**

**2. Skills and time are ours for pressing toward the goals of Christ, your Son:
all at peace in health and freedom, races joined, the Church made one.
Now direct our daily labor, lest we strive for self alone;
born with talents, make us servants fit to answer at your throne.**

**3. Treasure, too, you have entrusted, gain through powers your grace conferred;
ours to use for home and kindred, and to spread the Gospel Word.
Open wide our hands in sharing, as we heed Christ's ageless call,
healing, teaching, and reclaiming, serving you by loving all.**

THE MORNING PRAYER, SILENT PRAYER & THE LORD’S PRAYER

Pastor Karen

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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever.

***HYMN TFWS # 2138 "Sunday's Palms Are Wednesday's Ashes**

- 1. As another Lent begins thus we kneel before our Maker
In contrition for our sins
We have marred baptismal pledges In rebellion gone astray
Now returning seek forgiveness grant us pardon God this day**

- 2. We have failed to love our neighbors their offences to forgive
Have not listened to their troubles Nor have cared just how they live
We are jealous proud impatient loving over much our things
May the yielding of our failings be our Lenten offerings**

- 3. We are hasty to judge others blind to proof of human need
And our lack of understanding demonstrates our inner greed
We have wasted earth's resources want and suffering we've ignored
Come and cleanse us then restore us make new hearts within us Lord**

***BENEDICTION**

May God shine the light of glory into your hearts.
May Christ be with you and never leave you.
And may the Spirit renew the image of God within you.
Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. **Amen.**

CALENDAR

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|----------------------------|--|
| Monday, February 28 | 10 AM Zoom Prayer/Discussion Group |
| Tuesday, March 1 | Noon West Essex Ministerium-Lunch here |
| Wednesday, March 2 | ASH WEDNESDAY
6 PM SIMPLE SOUP SUPPER
7 PM IN PERSON & ZOOM WORSHIP |

REGISTER FOR THE SOUP SUPPER by Tuesday if you will be attending. Please call the church office at 973-226-4410 to reserve your place at the table. Thank you!

LENTEN STUDY BOOKS are now available on the lobby table. Join us every Monday at 10AM for prayer and discussion of Jill J. Duffield's **Lent in Plain Sight** or read this Lenten book on your own.