

**The Downtown Presbyterian Church
Order of Worship for February 14, 2021
Transfiguration Sunday**

Opening Voluntary Chorale Prelude on *Deo Gracias* John Dunstable
Melody for hymn "O Wondrous Sight, O Vision Fair"

Welcome

Call to Worship

Come to the mountaintop to pray, for God will not keep silence

We gather to listen for God's word and to make our response.

Come to the light of God's revelation, for we are in the darkness apart from God's love.

The light shines in our hearts, giving knowledge of the glory of God in the fact of Christ.

Come, as God's covenant people, who serve and sacrifice in faithfulness.

The heavens declare God's righteousness and draw us to the excitement of worship.

Invocation

We cry aloud to you, O God. Hear our prayers. In times of trouble, we need your comfort. Amid our confusion, we seek your clarity. From temptations of the flesh, we beg for liberation. Lead us away from the false gods we create, that we may meet you here with full expectancy and eager response. Amen.

Hymn "O Wondrous Sight, O Vision Fair"
Ryan Norris, cantor

Call to Confession

When our self-righteousness enslaves, when our arrogant pretensions deceive, when our anxiety enfeebles, God calls us to repent, to lay aside our excuses, to seek pardon and freedom at their only source—the love of God, revealed by Jesus Christ. Let us confess:

Prayer of Confession (unison)

O God, we are so self-centered that we cannot be centered selves. We are so preoccupied with things of little consequence that we cannot appreciate important matters of the heart. We consume other people instead of loving them. We bite and devour while you call us to build relationships and delight in your love. Set us free, O God, from the sin that binds us...

(personal prayer continues in silence)

Assurance of God's Grace

For freedom, Christ has set you free, brothers and sisters; only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for self-indulgence, but through love become servants to one another. Follow in the footsteps of Jesus Christ and live from this day forward in the promised realm of God. Friends, believe the good news of the gospel: ***in Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.***

Please share that peace with the people around you, or wish your neighbors peace in the comment section.

May the peace of Christ be with you.
And also with you.

Announcements

Children's Message

Suzie Lane

Prayer for Illumination

New Testament Reading

1 Corinthians 13:1-8a, 13

Old Testament Reading

2 Kings 2:1-12

Sermon

"Letting Go"

Rev. Scott Huie

Hymn

"Swing Low, Sweet Chariot"
Ryan Norris, cantor

Affirmation of Faith

from Confession of Belhar

We believe that God has entrusted the church with the message of reconciliation in and through Jesus Christ; that the church is called to be the salt of the earth and the light to the world, that the church is called blessed because it is a peacemaker, that the church is witness both by word and by deed to the new heaven and the new earth in which righteousness dwells.

We believe that God's life-giving Word and Spirit have conquered the powers of sin and death, and therefore also of irreconciliation and hatred, bitterness and enmity, that God's life-giving Word and Spirit will enable the church to live in a new obedience which can open new possibilities of life for society and the world.

Prayer of Intercession, Prayers of the People & The Lord's Prayer

Hymn

"Love Divine, All Loves Excelling"
Ryan Norris, cantor

Charge and Benediction

Closing Voluntary

Chorale Prelude on Hyfrydol
Melody for hymn "Love Divine, All Loves Excelling"

Richard Wienhorst

O Wondrous Sight, O Vision Fair 189

Capo 3: (Am) (G) (Am) (C) (D) (Em)
 Cm B \flat Cm E \flat F Gm

1 O won - drous sight, O vi - sion fair
 2 From age to age the tale de - clare,
 3 The law and proph - ets there have place,
 4 With shin - ing face and bright ar - ray
 5 And faith - ful hearts are raised on high

(Am) (Dm) (Am) (Em) (Am)
 Cm Fm Cm Gm Cm

of glo - ry that the church shall share,
 how with the three dis - ci - ples there,
 two cho - sen wit - ness - es of grace;
 Christ deigns to man - i - fest to - day
 by this great vi - sion's mys - ter - y,

(G) (Dm) (Em) (G) (Am)
 B \flat Fm Gm B \flat Cm

which Christ up - on the moun - tain shows,
 where Mo - ses and E - li - jah meet,
 the Fa - ther's voice from out the cloud
 what glo - ry shall be theirs a - bove
 for which in joy - ful strains we raise

(Em) (Dm) (F) (G) (Am)
 Gm Fm A \flat B \flat Cm

where bright - er than the sun he glows!
 the Lord holds con - verse high and sweet.
 pro - claims his on - ly Son a - loud.
 who joy in God with per - fect love.
 the voice of prayer, the hymn of praise.

Guitar chords do not correspond with keyboard harmony.

This translation of a 15th-century Latin devotional text is set here to a majestic 15th-century tune celebrating the victory of an English king; they combine to evoke the awe and wonder of that moment of revelation the three disciples experienced in Christ's Transfiguration.

TEXT: Latin, 15th cent.; trans. John Mason Neale, 1851, alt.
 MUSIC: "The Agincourt Song," c. 1415; harm. *The Hymnal*, 1933

DEO GRACIAS
 LM
 (alternate harmonization, 258)

825 Swing Low, Sweet Chariot

Refrain

Swing low, sweet char - i - ot, com-ing for to car-ry me home.

Swing low, sweet char - i - ot, com-ing for to car-ry me home. *Fine*

1 I looked o-ver Jor-dan, and what did I see com-ing for to car-ry me home?
 2 If you get there be - fore I do, com-ing for to car-ry me home,
 3 The bright - est day that ev - er I saw, com-ing for to car-ry me home,
 4 I'm some-times up and some-times down, com-ing for to car-ry me home,

to Refrain
 A band of an-gels com-ing af-ter me, com-ing for to car-ry me home. O,
 tell all my friends I'm com - ing too, com-ing for to car-ry me home. O,
 when Je - sus washed mysins a - way, com-ing for to car-ry me home. O,
 but still my soul feels heaven-ly bound, com-ing for to car-ry me home. O,

While ostensibly based on Elijah's ascent into heaven (2 Kings 2:11), this African American spiritual also communicates the enslaved people's hope that they might find deliverance across a river (i.e. in the free states beyond the Ohio). Call-and-response singing enhances this piece.


TEXT: African American spiritual
 MUSIC: African American spiritual; arr. Robert Nathaniel Dett, 1936
 Music Arr. © 1936, ren. Belwin-Mills Publishing Corp. (admin. Alfred Publishing Co., Inc.)

SWING LOW
 Irregular

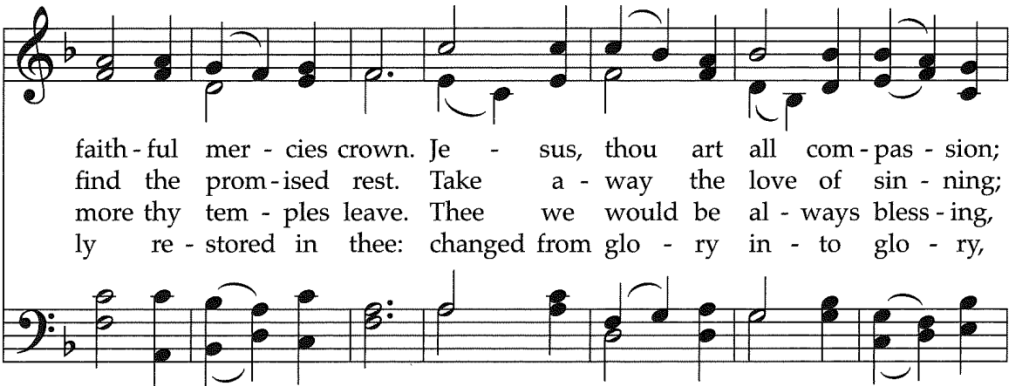
366 Love Divine, All Loves Excelling



1 Love di - vine, all loves ex - cel - ling, Joy of heaven, to
 2 Breathe, O breathe thy lov - ing Spir - it in - to ev - ery
 3 Come, Al - might - y, to de - liv - er; let us all thy
 4 Fin - ish then thy new cre - a - tion; pure and spot - less



earth come down, fix in us thy hum - ble dwell - ing; all thy
 trou - bled breast; let us all in thee in - her - it; let us
 life re - ceive; sud - den - ly re - turn, and nev - er, nev - er -
 let us be; let us see thy great sal - va - tion per - fect -



faith - ful mer - cies crown. Je - sus, thou art all com - pas - sion;
 find the prom - ised rest. Take a - way the love of sin - ning;
 more thy tem - ples leave. Thee we would be al - ways bless - ing,
 ly re - stored in thee: changed from glo - ry in - to glo - ry,

This text and this tune occur in almost all English-language hymnals (though not always together). The transforming power of love motivates the unending praise of the life to come, and this fine Welsh tune (whose name means "delightful") gives us a foretaste of endless song.

TEXT: Charles Wesley, 1747, alt.
 MUSIC: Rowland Hugh Prichard, 1831, alt.

HYFRYDOL
 8.7.8.7.D

CHRIST'S RETURN AND JUDGMENT



pure, un - bound - ed love thou art; vis - it us with
Al - pha and O - me - ga be; end of faith, as
serve thee as thy hosts a - bove, pray, and praise thee
till in heaven we take our place, till we cast our



thy sal - va - tion; en - ter ev - ery trem - bling heart.
its be - gin - ning, set our hearts at lib - er - ty.
with - out ceas - ing, glo - ry in thy per - fect love.
crowns be - fore thee, lost in won - der, love, and praise.