

# Bayview United Church

2609 Bayview Avenue

Toronto, Ontario M2L 1B5

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## Worship Service

**Zoom Audio Call**

**Call: 647-374-4685**

**ID#: 896-7180-8158#**

**Participant ID: Press #**

**Password: call or email office**

**Or <https://zoom.us/s/89671808158>**

**Music Director: K. Quinton**

**Minister: Rev. C. Cooper**

## **Transfiguration Sunday and Celebration of Holy Communion**

Sunday, January 31<sup>st</sup>, 2021 11:00 a.m.

### **Moment of Silent Reflection:**

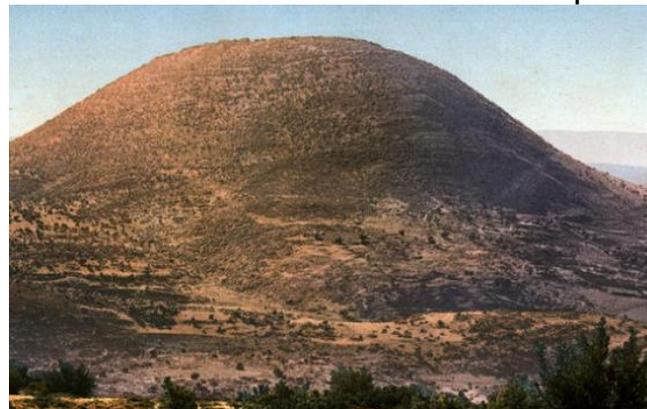
**Devotion** is commitment to something we care about deeply. It is passionate focus on our life's purpose. It is wholehearted service to an endeavor that we love. Devotion to those we love is a promise kept in daily ways to care for one another always. Discernment is the first step in discovering what is worthy of our devotion. What is my "yes"? What calls to me so strongly that I cannot resist, knowing that it is truly mine to do? When we are devoted, we give all we have and all that we are. Devotion is our true wealth.

(The Virtues Project)

"Let the beauty we love be what we do. There are hundreds of ways to kneel and kiss the ground." Rumi

## Page 2 **Praising God**

**Prelude** "When Morning Gilds the Skies"  
Joseph Barnby



**Mount of Transfiguration**

### **Words of Welcome**

#### **Call to Worship**

Let us take a moment to quiet our thoughts as we prepare our hearts for worship...

A mountain is just a long, hard climb to the top of a huge rock, unless you hear your beating heart whisper, "God is here."

A piece of bread is just a baked mixture of flour, water, yeast, salt and sugar, unless it is blessed and broken and shared. And as we eat together we realize "God is here".

Human beings are just a complex species, capable of bringing forth or destroying life, until we look into each other's eyes with amazement and compassion and say, "God is here, God is here, God is here."

May our lives be transformed as we are moved by the power of God's love in our lives.

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**Opening Prayer (unison)**

**God of power and wonder, we are awestruck by the glory of Your presence. We rejoice at what we can see; we marvel at what we cannot see. You dazzle us with Your brightness; You overshadow us with great mystery. May we love and serve You in all that we do as You strengthen and transform our lives each day. Glory be to You. Amen.**

**Hymn (104) “We Have Come at Christ’s Own Bidding” vs. 1,2,3**

- 1 We have come at Christ's own bidding to this high and holy place, where we wait with hope and longing for some token of God's grace. Here we pray for new assurance that our faith is not in vain, searching like those first disciples for a sign both clear and plain.
- 2 Light breaks in upon our darkness; splendour bathes the flesh-joined Word; Moses and Elijah marvel as the heavenly voice is heard. Eyes and hearts behold with wonder how the Law and Prophets meet: Christ, with garments drenched in brightness, stands transfigured and complete.
- 3 Strengthened by this glimpse of glory, fearful lest our faith decline, we like Peter find it tempting

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to remain and build a shrine.  
But true worship gives us courage to proclaim what we profess, that our daily lives may prove us people of the God we bless.

**Prayer for Grace (unison)**

**God of transfiguration, we long for mountain-top encounters where Your presence is dazzlingly obvious and Your Will for us is clear and certain. Yet much of the time we feel we are muddling through the uncertainties of life. Illuminate our path with Your radiant, reassuring presence. Teach us the secret of Moses and Jesus, who knew how to carry Your presence with them into all of life. Transfigure us until we too reveal Your Spirit to those around us. Amen.**

**Assurance of Grace**

When we see our shadow, we have turned our back to the sun. We need only turn around for the light of Christ to illuminate and strengthen our lives. Thanks be to God!

**Hebrew Reading**      2 Kings 2:1-12      J. Cermak  
(Elijah is taken up into heaven.)

**Gospel Lesson**      Mark 9:2-9      J. Cermak  
(Jesus is transfigured and seen in a new way.)

**Solo**      “Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence”  
trans. Gerard Moultrie/French medieval carol  
L. Lazar, Soprano

**Sermon**      “The Gift of Transformation”      Rev. Cooper



## Responding to God

### Invitation to the Table (Rev. Cooper and J. Cermak)

One: People of faith, welcome to this table of blessings!

**All: We seek to be fed and nurtured.**

One: People of faith, bring your doubts and fears and leave them at this table.

**All: Christ meets us here and accepts each one of us just as we are.**

One: People of faith, let us unite as one as we satisfy our hunger and deepen our faith.

### Hymn (468) "Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ" vs. 1, 2, 3

- 1 Let us talents and tongues employ,  
reaching out with a shout of joy:  
bread is broken, the wine is poured,  
Christ is spoken and seen and heard.  
**Jesus lives again, earth can breathe again,  
pass the Word around: loaves abound!**

## Jesus lives again, earth can breathe again, pass the Word around: loaves abound!

- 2 Christ is able to make us one,  
at the table he sets the tone,  
teaching people to live to bless,  
love in word and in deed express. **R**
- 3 Jesus calls us in, sends us out,  
bearing fruit in a world of doubt,  
gives us love to tell, bread to share:  
God (Immanuel) everywhere!

### Prayer of Thanksgiving (Rev. Cooper and J. Cermak)

One: God is with us.

**All: We are not alone.**

One: Christ is present.

**All: The Spirit is among us.**

One: Let us open our hearts to God.

**All: We open them to God and to one another.**

One: Let us give thanks.

**All: It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

One: Mighty and tender God, in Jesus of Nazareth,  
we recognize the fullness of Your grace: light,  
life and love. You are revealed to us in words  
that comfort us, in teachings that challenge us  
and in the compassion that heals and frees us.

**All: Now we gather at this table to remember and  
to be filled with such longing for heaven on  
earth, that we may rise together to follow  
Your Way.**

One: Blessed are You, gracious God, Creator of  
Light, Giver of Life, Source of Love. At Your  
Word creation dawns. Under your rainbow the

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floods recede. With a burning bush You hallow the earth. By a pillar of fire, You guide Your people.

**All: You placed angels in the sky and a star in the eastern sky. You sent Jesus to be the light of the world, to heal the sick, to befriend the stranger, to stand up for the oppressed and to give his life in service to others.**

One: Jesus, gift from God, lived so that we might know what it is like to walk with each other in justice and in communion with God.

**All: Through the ages, Your Spirit has moved and touched the lives of Your people and anointed them for witness and service.**

One: Send now Your Spirit on us and these gifts of bread and cup. May they be for us the remembering of the Holy One's love, grace and purpose. **Amen.**

## **Words of Institution**

### **Sharing the Bread and the Cup**

(You are invited to eat some bread or a cracker and drink a beverage.)

**Post-Communion Prayer** (together)

**Loving God, we have been fed here by Your love. Thank You for the ways in which You care for us and others. We give thanks for Your gift of creation and pray that one day we may all be one in Your Spirit. Touch our lives with Your Spirit and send us forth with love and gratitude. Amen.**

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**Hymn (481) "Sent Forth By God's Blessing" vs. 1, 2**  
Sent forth by God's blessing,  
our true faith confessing,  
the people of God from this dwelling take leave.  
The supper is ended, O now be extended  
the fruits of this service in all who believe.  
The seed of Christ's teaching,  
receptive souls reaching,  
shall blossom in action for God and for all.  
God's grace did invite us,  
God's love shall unite us  
to work for the kingdom and answer its call.

2 With praise and thanksgiving to God ever living,  
the tasks of our everyday life we will face.  
Our faith ever sharing, in love ever caring,  
embracing God's children of each tribe and race  
With your feast you feed us,  
with your light now lead us;  
unite us as one in this life that we share.  
Then may all the living with praise and  
thanksgiving  
give honour to Christ and the name that we bear.

## **Commissioning and Benediction**

God is your shade at your right hand;  
The sun will not harm you by day,  
nor the moon by night.  
God will watch over your life;  
God will watch over your coming and going  
both now and forever more. (Psalm 121:5-8)  
And until we meet again,  
May God hold you in the palm of God's hand.  
(Irish Blessing)

**Postlude** "Be Thou My Vision" traditional Irish  
arr. P. Keveren  
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**Thank you** for joining our Zoom audio and video worship service today. We hope you found the worship service a meaningful experience.

**Many thanks** to B. Kai, J. Brooker, R. Bloor and R. Kunihiro for coordinating our Zoom audio and video service. Thanks to J. Cermak for reading our scriptures. Thanks to K. Quinton, L. Lazar, and P. Tibbles Cookson for inspiring us with their music.

You can support Bayview United Church using **e-transfer** from your bank. Decide amount you wish to donate, follow your bank's instructions & email to: [office@bayviewunitedchurch.ca](mailto:office@bayviewunitedchurch.ca) In the comments section indicate where you would like your donation to go, for example Local, Mission and Service, Easter, Memorial, etc. Thank you for your support of BUC.

**Today, Sunday, January 31<sup>st</sup>, Transfiguration Sunday and the Sacrament of Holy Communion.** We invite you to have ready a piece of bread or cracker and beverage.

**Sunday, February 7<sup>th</sup>, is Black History Sunday**

**Sunday, February 14<sup>th</sup>, is Family Day Service.** You are invited to send a family photo to R. Graham. The youth class will be putting together a slide show of our BUC family.

**If you** have a celebration you would like to be announced on a Sunday, please let Rev. Cooper know and you can also email a photo to B. Kai, by Friday.

**Annual Reports for 2020** are due on February 1st. Please send reports to church office, [office@bayviewunitedchurch.ca](mailto:office@bayviewunitedchurch.ca). The Annual Meeting will be held on Sun. March 7th, 2021.

**Prayers and Concerns:** Please remember in your prayers all those in need of hope, comfort and healing.

**BUC Prayer Group:** These individuals offer confidential prayer support to anyone who is in need of God's healing love, support and compassion in their lives. Prayers may be for a relative, a close friend or yourself. Please contact E. Turnbull or R. Shikaze with your prayer request. Thank you.

**God bless you**, stay well, stay safe and we hope you tune in next week...same day, same time, and same Zoom phone number or video link.



**Have a blessed day!**