

Holy Eucharist

August 6, 2023

Zoom link:

Tenth Sunday after Pentecost:
The Sunday of the
Transfiguration,
Year A

<https://uso2web.zoom.us/j/85887946777?pwd=ei94MEdsMUh6clV6b2dUblFOQ3I2Zzo>

9

Meeting ID: 858 8794 6777

Passcode: 782611

Prelude

Opening Hymn

Hymnal 135

Songs of thankfulness and praise

1 Songs of thank-ful - ness and praise, Jes - us, Lord, to thee we raise,
2 Man - i - fest at Jor - dan's stream, Pro-phet, Priest, and King su - preme;
3 Man - i - fest in mak - ing whole pal - sied limbs and faint - ing soul;
4 Man - i - fest on moun - tain height, shin - ing in re - splen - dent light,

man - i - fest - ed by the star to the sa - ges from a - far;
and at Ca - na, wed - ding - guest, in thy God - head man - i - fest;
man - i - fest in val - iant fight, quell - ing all the dev - il's might;
where dis - ci - ples filled with awe thy trans - fi - gured glo - ry saw.

branch of roy - al Da - vid's stem in thy birth at Beth - le - hem;
 man - i - fest in power di - vine, chang - ing wa - ter in - to wine;
 man - i - fest in gra - cious will, ev - er bring - ing good from ill;
 When from there thou led - dest them stead - fast to Je - ru - sa - lem,

an - thems be to thee ad - dressed, God in man made man - i - fest.
 an - thems be to thee ad - dressed, God in man made man - i - fest.
 an - thems be to thee ad - dressed, God in man made man - i - fest.
 cross and Eas - ter Day at - test God in man made man - i - fest.

Presider Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
People **And blessed be God's reign, now and for ever. Amen.**

The Presider begins the Collect for Purity

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid:
Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

The following is sung, all standing as they are able

Song of Praise

Chorus Book 1

Awesome God

Our God is an awe - some God; He reigns from

heav-en a - bove With wis - dom, pow'r and love. Our

God is an awe - some God! Our God! Our

God is an awe - some God!

Collect of the Day

Presider The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you.**
Presider Let us pray.

O God, who on the holy mount revealed to chosen witnesses your well-beloved Son, wonderfully transfigured, in raiment white and glistening: Mercifully grant that we, being delivered from the disquietude of this world, may by faith behold the King in his beauty; who with you, O Father, and you, O Holy Spirit, lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

All sit.

First Reading

Exodus 34:29-35

A Reading from the book of Exodus.

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. ³⁰When Aaron and all the Israelites saw Moses, the skin of his face was shining, and they were afraid to come near him. ³¹But Moses called to them; and Aaron and all the leaders of the congregation returned to him, and Moses spoke with them. ³²Afterward all the Israelites came near, and he gave them in commandment all that the LORD had spoken with him on Mount Sinai. ³³When Moses had finished speaking with them, he put a veil on his face; ³⁴but whenever Moses went in before the LORD to speak with him, he would take the veil off, until he came out; and when he came out, and told the Israelites what he had been commanded, ³⁵the Israelites would see the face of Moses, that the skin of his face was shining; and Moses would put the veil on his face again, until he went in to speak with him.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 99

to be prayed responsively, beginning with the men.

¹The LORD is King; let the people tremble; *
he is enthroned upon the cherubim;
let the earth shake.

²**The LORD is great in Zion; *
he is high above all peoples.**

³Let them confess his Name, which is great and awesome; *
he is the Holy One.

⁴**“O mighty King, lover of justice,
you have established equity; *
you have executed justice and righteousness in Jacob.”**

⁵Proclaim the greatness of the LORD our God
and fall down before his footstool; *
he is the Holy One.

⁶**Moses and Aaron among his priests,
and Samuel among those who call upon his Name, *
they called upon the LORD, and he answered them.**

⁷He spoke to them out of the pillar of cloud; *
they kept his testimonies and the decree that he gave them.

⁸**“O LORD our God, you answered them indeed; *
you were a God who forgave them,
yet punished them for their evil deeds.”**

⁹Proclaim the greatness of the LORD our God
and worship him upon his holy hill; *
for the LORD our God is the Holy One.

Second Reading

2 Peter 1:13-21

A Reading from the Second letter of Peter.

¹³I think it right, as long as I am in this body, to refresh your memory, ¹⁴since I know that my death will come soon, as indeed our Lord Jesus Christ has made clear to me. ¹⁵And I will make every effort so that after my departure you may be able at any time to recall these things.

¹⁶For we did not follow cleverly devised myths when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we had been eyewitnesses of his majesty. ¹⁷For he received honor and glory from God the Father when that voice was conveyed to him by the Majestic Glory, saying, "This is my Son, my Beloved, with whom I am well pleased." ¹⁸We ourselves heard this voice come from heaven, while we were with him on the holy mountain.

¹⁹So we have the prophetic message more fully confirmed. You will do well to be attentive to this as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts. ²⁰First of all you must understand this, that no prophecy of scripture is a matter of one's own interpretation, ²¹because no prophecy ever came by human will, but men and women moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

All then stand as they are able.

Sequence Hymn

Hymnal 129

Christ upon the mountain peak

1 Christ up - on the moun - tain peak stands a - lone in
2 Trem - bling at his feet we saw Mo - ses and E -
3 Swift the cloud of glo - ry came. God pro - claim - ing
4 This is God's be - lov - ed Son! Law and pro - phets

glo - ry blaz - ing; let us, if we dare to speak,
li - jah speak - ing. All the pro - phets and the Law
in its thun - der Je - sus as his Son by name!
fade be - fore him; first and last and on - ly One,

with the saints and an - gels praise him. Al - le - lu - ia!
 shout through them their joy - ful greet - ing. Al - le - lu - ia!
 Na - tions cry a - loud in won - der! Al - le - lu - ia!
 let cre - a - tion now a - dore him! Al - le - lu - ia!

All remain standing as they are able.

Holy Gospel

Luke 9:28-36

Gospeller The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to Luke.
People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

²⁸Jesus took with him Peter and John and James, and went up on the mountain to pray. ²⁹And while he was praying, the appearance of his face changed, and his clothes became dazzling white. ³⁰Suddenly they saw two men, Moses and Elijah, talking to him. ³¹They appeared in glory and were speaking of his departure, which he was about to accomplish at Jerusalem. ³²Now 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. ³³Just 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. ³⁴While he was saying this, a cloud came and overshadowed them; and they were terrified as they entered the cloud. ³⁵Then from the cloud came a voice that said, “This is my Son, my Chosen; listen to him!” ³⁶When 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.



Gospeller The Gospel of the Lord.
People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

Sermon

Marion VanLoo

All stand as they are able.

Nicene Creed

Presider Let us affirm the faith of the Church using the words of the Nicene Creed.

**We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary
and became truly human.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father [and the Son],
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.**

**We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

All remain standing as they are able.

Prayers of the People

Presider Sisters and brothers, children of God, in Christ you have revealed your glory. O God, as you call your church to be transformed into the image of Christ from one degree of glory to another: let your transfiguring grace be present to bring the light of Christ's resurrection to the needs of the world. We pray: let us confess God's Name, which is great and awesome; God is the Holy One.

Intercessor Holy and Transcendent God, through Christ, you have revealed your divine glory in our humanity: Reveal yourself to us. Awaken your church to see your presence manifested throughout the world, that we may serve you with a hope that acts with great boldness in your

name. Let us confess God's Name, which is great and awesome; **God is the Holy One.**

Silence is kept

God reigns enthroned over all: Let your glory be known, Almighty One, among the leaders of the nations and all in authority in the world, that they may accomplish your dream to establish equity and to execute justice and righteousness. Let us confess God's Name, which is great and awesome; **God is the Holy One.**

Silence is kept

For all the dreams held deep within our hearts; for all our needs; for the blessings you shower on the earth and on your people [especially _____]. Visit this community with your enlightening grace, O Glorious One, and reveal yourself as you did upon the holy mountain, that your brightness may shine forth from this place to the glory of your name.

Silence is kept

Let your transfiguring light go forth into all the world, O Compassionate One, to heal and comfort those who suffer from sadness, illness, poverty, injustice, or oppression [especially _____]. Speak to them your healing words and give them the light of your countenance.

Silence is kept

You have taken your own creation into the cloud of eternal life; may your light eternal shine upon those who have died, for whom we pray [especially _____]. Let us confess God's Name, which is great and awesome; **God is the Holy One.**

Silence is kept

Presider For what other people and situations shall we pray today?

O, God the King of glory, you have exalted your only Son Jesus Christ with great triumph to your kingdom in heaven: Do not leave us comfortless, but send us your Holy Spirit to strengthen us, exalt us to that place where our Savior Christ has gone before. **Amen.**

Confession of Sin

The Presider says to the people

Let us confess our sins to God.

All remain standing, or kneel, as they are able.

Silence may be kept.

Minister and People

**God of all mercy,
we confess that we have sinned against you,
opposing your will in our lives.
We have denied your goodness in each other,
in ourselves, and in the world you have created.
We repent of the evil that enslaves us,
the evil we have done,
and the evil done on our behalf.
Forgive, restore, and strengthen us
through our Savior Jesus Christ,
that we may abide in your love
and serve only your will. Amen.**

A Priest stands and says

Almighty God have mercy on you, + forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life.
Amen.

Prayers for those celebrating their birthdays and anniversaries

In August, we celebrate the birthdays of Anabelle, Mary V, and any others you wish to remember in prayer.

Those who will be celebrating their birthday or anniversary in August are invited to the front of the nave.

Prayer for a Birthday

O God, our times are in your hand: Look with favor, we pray, on your servants Anabelle, Mary... as they begin another year. Grant that they may grow in wisdom and grace, and strengthen their trust in your goodness all the days of their lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Prayer for an Anniversary

Eternal God, creator and preserver of all life, author of salvation, and giver of all grace: Look with favor upon the world you have made, and for which your Son gave his life, and especially upon all couples. Grant that their wills may be so knit together in your will, and their spirits in your Spirit, that they may continue to grow in love and peace with you and one another all the days of their lives. **Amen.**

All then stand as they are able.

Peace

Presider The peace of Christ be always with you.
People **And also with you.**

Then the Ministers and the People may greet one another in the name of the Lord.

The People then are seated.

Announcements

Holy Communion

Presider Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving, and make good your vows to the Most High.
Psalm 50:14

The people stand as they are able when the offerings are presented and placed on the Altar.

Offertory Hymn

Doxology

**Praise God, from Whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, you heav'nly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.**

The people remain standing as they are able

Great Thanksgiving

Presider The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you.**
Presider Lift up your hearts.
People **We lift them to the Lord.**
Presider Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

The Presider proceeds

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

For you are the source of light and life; you made us in your image, and called us to new life in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever proclaim the glory of your Name:

**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.

The Presider continues

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

The Presider continues

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them **+** by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him.

Sanctify us **+** also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **AMEN.**

The Presider then continues

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

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 and ever. Amen.**

Breaking of the Bread

A period of silence is kept.

The Presider says

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

All are welcome to receive Holy Communion.

Remaining seated, the following is sung after the table has been cleared.


Communion Hymn

LEVAS 88

My faith looks up to thee

1. My faith looks up to thee, Thou lamb of
1. Cal - va - ry, Sav - ior di - vine!
1. Now hear me while I pray, Take all my guilt a - way;

The musical score is written in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of three systems, each with a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment line (bass clef). The lyrics are placed between the staves. The first system covers the first line of lyrics, the second system covers the second line, and the third system covers the third line. The piano accompaniment provides a simple harmonic support for the vocal line.



1. O let me from this day Be whol - ly thine.

The Presider then says

Let us pray.

Presider and People

**Eternal God, heavenly Father,
 you have graciously accepted us as living members
 of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ,
 and you have fed us with spiritual food
 in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood.
 Send us now into the world in peace,
 and grant us strength and courage
 to love and serve you
 with gladness and singleness of heart;
 through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Blessing

A priest blesses the people, saying

May the blessing of God Almighty, + the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. **Amen.**

Closing Hymn

LEVAS 165

Higher ground



1. I'm press - ing on the up - ward way, New heights I'm
 2. My heart has no de - sire to stay Where doubts a -
 4. I want to scale the ut - most height, And catch a

1. gain - ing ev - ery day; Still pray - ing as I on - ward bound,
 2. rise and fears dis - may; Though some may dwell where these a - bound,
 4. gleam of glo - ry bright; But still I'll pray till heav'n I've found,

1. "Lord, plant my feet on high - er ground."
 2. My prayer, my aim is high - er ground. Lord lift me
 4. "Lord, lead me on the high - er ground."

up, and let me stand By faith, on heav - en's ta - ble - land; A high - er

plane than I have found, Lord, plant my feet on high - er ground.

Dismissal

Minister Go forth into the world. You are the body of Christ.
 May you have the heart of Christ, tender for mercy.
 May you have the eyes of Christ to see a world in need.
 May you have the feet of Christ to bring good news.

People **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia!**

Postlude



This week in prayer

Please remember these persons and congregations in your prayers this week:

Our Bishops Bonnie, Michael, Justin, Moises (TEC); Elizabeth, Donald and Craig (ELCA)
and for all priests, deacons, Ministry Teams, and those in formation

Anglican Cycle of Prayer:

August 6 Province de L'Eglise Anglicane du Congo

Diocese of Michigan Cycle of Prayer:

August 6 Christ Church Cranbrook, Bloomfield Hills; Christ the Savior, Santiago, St Peter's, Los Conucos, DR

St Barnabas Cycle of Prayer: Tim, Sarah, Kailyn, Ellery, Michael

and our continuing prayers for: Bob, Carlos, Jim M, Joan, Mardi, Robert, Selenah

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Faith in Action continues to provide leadership in collecting donations of food to support households in need in the Chelsea and Dexter areas. They are in need of our support and help. *At this time of year, fresh produce is especially welcome.* You may bring your donations to FIA, or to [Nancy](#) who will see that they get there. **If you bring food directly to FIA**, please let Nancy know, so she can continue to keep our records of donation. If you write a check, please make it to *Faith In Action*. The **next Food Drive** is **August 20**. Please contribute as generously as you can.

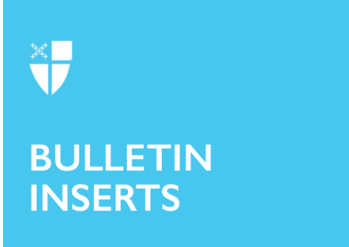
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Upcoming Commemorations

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|----------|--|
| August 6 | The Transfiguration of our Lord Jesus Christ |
| 7 | John Mason Neale, Priest and Hymnographer, 1866; and,
Catherine Winkworth: Poet, 1878 |
| 8 | Dominic, Priest and Friar, 1221 |
| 9 | Herman of Alaska: Missionary to the Aleut, 1837 |
| 10 | Laurence of Rome, Deacon and Martyr, 258 |

- 11 Clare of Assisi, Monastic, 1253
- 12 Florence Nightingale, Nurse, 1910

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August 6, 2023 Transfiguration of Christ

Exodus 34:29-35

Moses returns to the people with the gift of the tablets of the covenant in his arms. He has been speaking with God “face to face, as one speaks to a friend” (Ex 33:7-11). The Israelites stand in awe of the startling effect of Moses’ shining face. And the people are frightened by the change in him.

Moses calls the people close to hear God’s most holy words to them and to share in the renewed covenant. Eventually, despite their fear of the change in him, they come—the radiance of his face evidence of God working within him.

Don’t we long to be in the presence of our Creator? We pray for that very thing, to see the face of God, to be there with the Presence, to know what it is like. And indeed, it is a scary thing, knowing we will certainly be changed by the experience. Might others turn away, afraid of our shining faces and the truth we speak?

Discussion Questions

- Moses veils his face unless he is with God or speaking God’s word to the people. Why do you think that is?
- How is your faith visible to others?
- What has been your experience of speaking God’s word to others? Do you think they see you differently afterward?

Psalm 99

Psalm 99 is the last of the “enthronement psalms” where we have a vision of God seated above all in the highest of holy places: in this case, upon the very Ark of the Covenant. In her translation of Psalm 99, Nan Merrill writes, “Awaken you people! Entrust your hearts to Love” (*Psalms for Praying: An Invitation to Wholeness*). In the face of very Love, the leaders of the world bow down and proclaim the mighty King, the lover of justice, who brings equity.

The psalmist, keenly aware of the failings of human kings and of the effect of their failings on the people, recalls for them their ancestral relationship with the Lord God. God is a king who can be relied upon to bring justice and mercy, while also holding us accountable. There are safety and assurance in boundaries and covenant. We know where God stands: God stands with us.

“Awaken you people, entrust your hearts to Love.”

Discussion Questions

- Where do you find boundaries and structure help you in your relationship with God and others?
- Are there “lesser gods” in your life that compete for your time with the Beloved?

2 Peter 1:13-21

The author of 2 Peter is obviously concerned about authority, credibility, and trust. We aren’t sure to whom he is referring when he contrasts “cleverly devised myths” with the eyewitness account of the Transfiguration. His are not

words of boasting, but of concern that the readers or listeners know the truth of Jesus Christ, the Beloved Son of the Majestic Glory.

The writer also makes it clear that the Bible is a powerful and dangerous text, not to be interpreted without careful discernment and reliance upon the Spirit as mediator. In the Early Church, it was important (as it is for us today) to have confidence in those that interpreted Scripture. Prophecy never begins and ends with human beings, but from and with the Holy Spirit who enlightens our efforts, that the Word may serve as a lamp to illumine our hearts.

Discussion Questions

- With the many interpretations of truth that swirl around us, where do you look for guidance and counsel?
- This letter, purportedly written by Peter, apostle of Jesus, was most likely written by a later prophetic author. How does that change, if at all, how we might unlock our own interpretation of the “eyewitness” testimony?

Luke 9:28-36

The telling of the Transfiguration is found in all three synoptic gospels. All have similar elements – Jesus’ changing appearance, his shining face and dazzling white garments, the appearance of Moses and Elijah, and the cloud from which God affirms Jesus’ authority, giving a foretaste of his glory as the Son of the Most High. The differences in Luke’s gospel lie in some specifics related to the conversation Jesus has with Elijah and Moses.

“They appeared in glory and were speaking of his departure, which he was about to accomplish at Jerusalem.” Here Moses and Elijah, the Law and the Prophets, bear witness to Jesus’ departure, his exodus, as still another saving act of God. Jesus and his companions will now begin the journey, traveling from the mountaintop to the valley, and from there the glory of God in Christ Jesus will be made known to all the nations.

We can’t blame Peter for wanting to hold onto the three shining figures transfigured by their proximity to the Holy One. How many times have we experienced the shining of Christ in our lives in a moment of inspired worship and prayer, only to find the image fading days or perhaps hours later? Unfortunately, we can’t stop time. Perhaps what we might seek to transfigure is how we see the world in the light of Christ, and then to reflect that out to the world.

Discussion Questions

- What are some ways we can listen to Jesus’ voice that might transfigure our lives?
- How do you shine the light of Christ in small and not-so-small ways?

This study written by Sandi Albom, Episcopal Divinity School

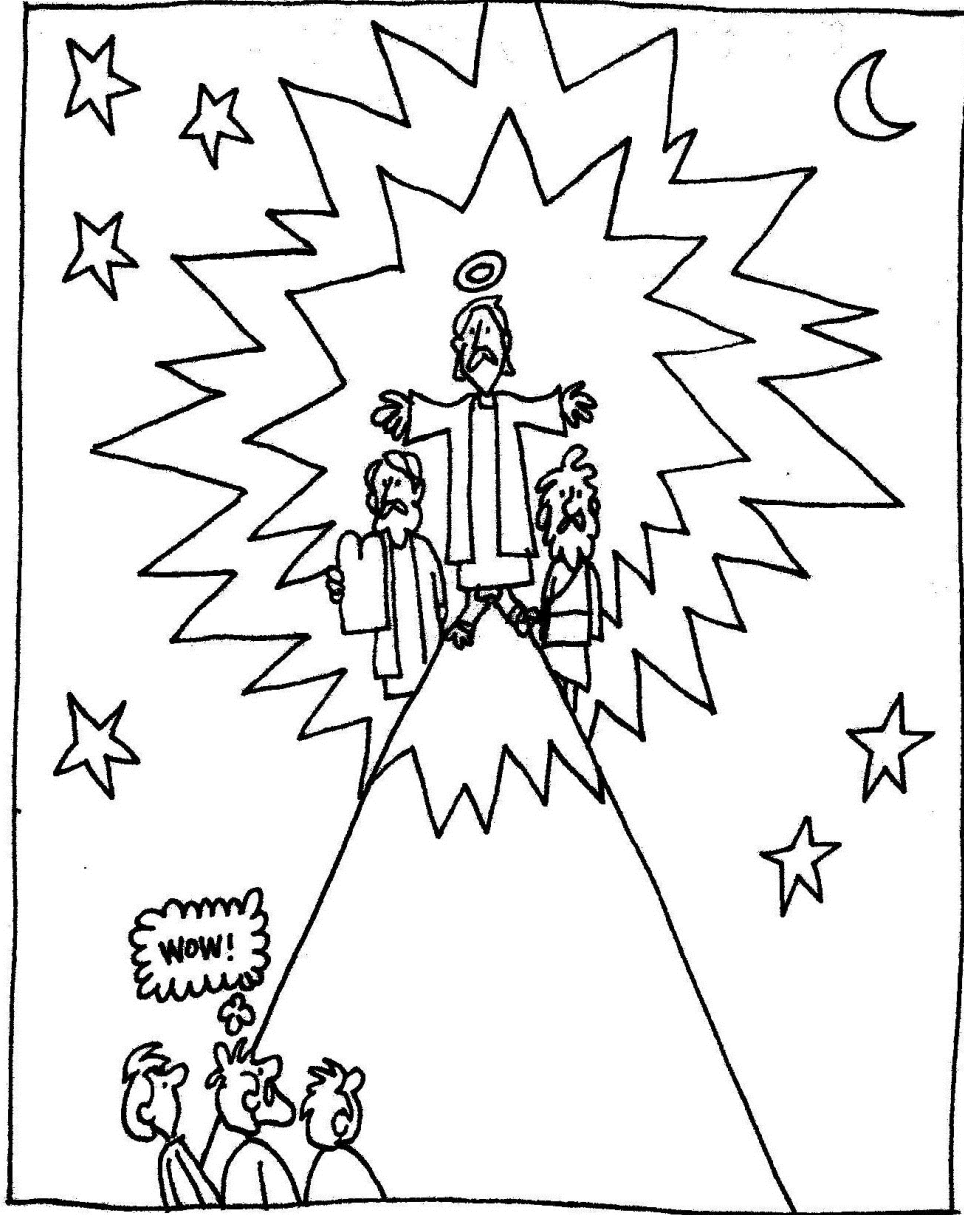
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Our Mission:

We seek to grow as diverse disciples of Jesus Christ,
and to serve Jesus by serving others in the world, guided by the values of
Ancient Rites, Open Minds, and Affirming Hearts.



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