Holy Eucharist

February 11, 2024

Zoom link:

https://uso2web.zoom.us/j/85887946777?pwd=ei94 MEdsMUh6clV6b2dUblFOQ3I2Zzo9

> Meeting ID: 858 8794 6777 Passcode: 782611

The Last Sunday after the Epiphany, 6B

Prelude

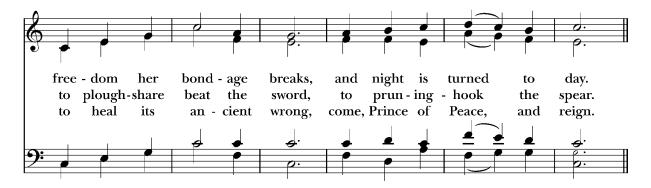


All stand as they are able

Opening Hymn

Hymnal 542 Christ is the world's true light





Presider Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People And blessed be God's kingdom, 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 said, all standing

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's people on earth. Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer. For you alone are the Holy One. you alone are the Lord, vou alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Collect of the Day

Presider God be with you.
People And also with you.

Presider Let us pray.

O God, who before the passion of your only-begotten Son revealed his glory upon the holy mountain: Grant to us that we, beholding by faith the light of his countenance, may be strengthened to bear our cross, and be changed into his likeness from glory to glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen**.

All sit.

First Reading 2 Kings 2:1-12

A Reading from the Second book of Kings.

¹Now when the LORD was about to take Elijah up to heaven by a whirlwind, Elijah and Elisha were on their way from Gilgal. ²Elijah said to Elisha, "Stay here; for the LORD has sent me as far as Bethel." But Elisha said, "As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So they went down to Bethel. ³The company of prophets who were in Bethel came out to Elisha, and said to him, "Do you know that today the LORD will take your master away from you?" And he said, "Yes, I know; keep silent."

⁴Elijah said to him, "Elisha, stay here; for the LORD has sent me to Jericho." But he said, "As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So they came to Jericho. ⁵The company of prophets who were at Jericho drew near to Elisha, and said to him, "Do you know that today the LORD will take your master away from you?" And he answered, "Yes, I know; be silent."

⁶Then Elijah said to him, "Stay here; for the LORD has sent me to the Jordan." But he said, "As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So the two of them went on. ⁷Fifty men of the company of prophets also went, and stood at some distance from them, as they both were standing by the Jordan. ⁸Then Elijah took his mantle and rolled it up, and struck the water; the water was parted to the one side and to the other, until the two of them crossed on dry ground.

⁹When they had crossed, Elijah said to Elisha, "Tell me what I may do for you, before I am taken from you." Elisha said, "Please let me inherit a double share of your spirit." ¹⁰He responded, "You have asked a hard thing; yet, if you see me as I am being taken from you, it will be granted you; if not, it will not." ¹¹As they continued walking and talking, a chariot of fire and horses of fire separated the two of them, and Elijah ascended in a whirlwind into heaven. ¹²Elisha kept watching and crying out, "Father, father! The chariots of Israel and its horsemen!" But when he could no longer see him, he grasped his own clothes and tore them in two pieces.

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

Remain seated

Psalm 50:1-6

to be prayed in unison

¹The LORD, the God of gods, has spoken; *
God has called the earth from the rising of the sun to its setting.

²Out of Zion, perfect in its beauty, * God reveals himself in glory.

God reveals himself in glory.

³Our God will come and will not keep silence; * before him there is a consuming flame, and round about him a raging storm.

⁴The Holy One calls the heavens and the earth from above * to witness the judgment of God's people.

5"Gather before me my loyal followers, * those who have made a covenant with me and sealed it with sacrifice."

⁶Let the heavens declare the rightness of this cause; * for God himself is judge.

Second Reading

2 Corinthians 4:3-6

A Reading from Paul's Second letter to the Church in Corinth.

³If our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. ⁴In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. ⁵For we do not proclaim ourselves; we proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and ourselves as your slaves for Jesus' sake. ⁶For it is the God who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

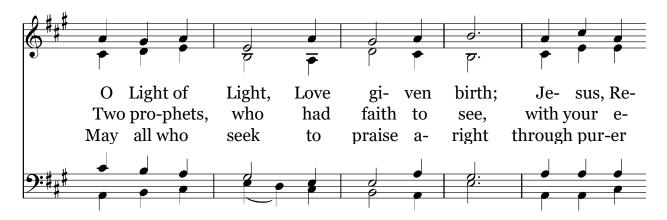
Reader The Word of the Lord.
People Thanks be to God.

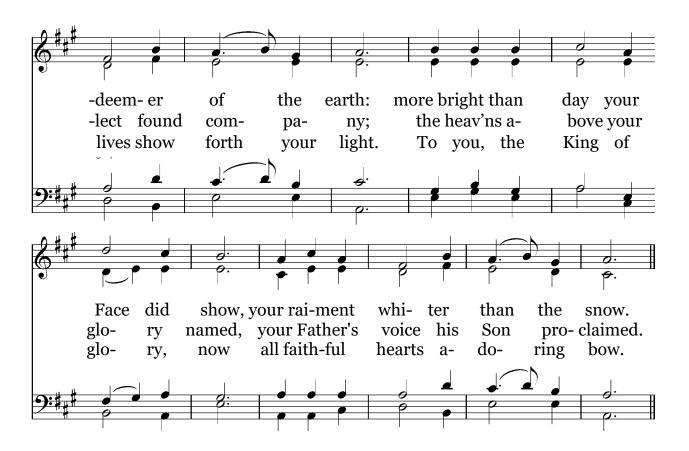
All stand as they are able.

Sequence Hymn

O Light of Light, Love given birth

Hymnal 134





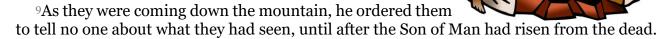
Holy Gospel Mark 9:2-9

Gospeller The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to Mark.

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

²Jesus took with him Peter and James and John, and led them up a high mountain apart, by

themselves. And he was transfigured before them, ³and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no one on earth could bleach them. ⁴And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses, who were talking with Jesus. ⁵Then Peter said to Jesus, "Rabbi, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." ⁶He did not know what to say, for they were terrified. ⁷Then a cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud there came a voice, "This is my Son, the Beloved; listen to him!" ⁸Suddenly when they looked around, they saw no one with them any more, but only Jesus.



Gospeller The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Sermon Marion VanLoo

All then 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, let us hear God's voice as we kneel in awe before the Holy One. May we not be the same, after recognizing God's glory. **Merciful and gracious Lord, hear our prayer.**

Intercessor Speak to us of peace. Call us to work for justice and to care for the welfare of all your children: in our homes, in our workplaces, in our neighborhoods, in your Church, in our nation, and in the world. Shine your light in the dark places of our lives and in this world. **Merciful and gracious Lord, hear our prayer.**

Silence is kept.

Holy One, you are ruler of all things in heaven and earth. Hear our prayers for this parish family. Strengthen the faithful, arouse the careless, and restore the penitent. Grant us all a burning heart for our congregation, and all things necessary for our common life, and the embrace of the ministries with which you have gifted everyone. Bring us all to be of one heart and mind within your holy Church. **Merciful and gracious Lord, hear our prayer.**

Silence is kept

Holy One, we rely on, and give thanks for, your divine wisdom, knowledge and understanding. We know that, because of your Holy Spirit's guidance, we can make the right decisions in line with your will and purpose for this parish. We ask for the Spirit of discernment, that we each may be enabled to make those decisions that will lead us to the serving of your church in this place. **Merciful and gracious Lord, hear our prayer.**

Silence is kept

We are abundantly blessed	d, and praise you for your goodnes	s and care of us.	We are grateful
today for [and] all you so graciously give us.	Merciful and	gracious Lord,
hear our prayer.			

Silence is kept.

Call us to be a compassionate and prayerful presence for those whose hearts ache from grief, whose souls are weary or wounded. We pray for [______]. Overshadow us with your awesome presence. Walk down from the mountaintop with us, and walk before us into the places you would have us serve as witnesses to your healing and love. **Merciful and gracious Lord, hear our prayer.**

Silence is kept.

We pray for those who have died [remembering_____], that they may know the fullness of your love in the life you have prepared for them. Comfort those who grieve their loss, and give them the confidence of your love that knows no limits of time or space. **Merciful and gracious Lord, hear our prayer.**

Presider Lord God, you have called your servants in this place to ventures of which we cannot see the ending, by paths as yet untrodden, through perils unknown. Give us faith to go out with good courage, not knowing where we go, but only that your hand is leading us and your love supporting us; for this we pray. **Amen.**

Confession of Sin

The Presider says to the people

Jesus said, "The first commandment is this: Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God is the only Lord. Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength. The second is this: Love your neighbor as yourself. There is no other commandment greater than these." *Mark* 12:29-31

Let us confess our sins to God.

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

Silence may be kept.

Minister and People

Most merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us;
that we may delight in your will,
and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your Name. Amen.

A Priest stands and says

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

All then stand as they are able.

Peace

Presider The peace of Christ be always with you.

People And also with you.

The Ministers and the People may offer God's peace to one another in the name of the Lord.

The People then are seated.

Announcements

Holy Communion

I appeal to you, sisters and brothers, by the mercies of God, to present yourselves as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. *Romans* 12:1

Representatives of the congregation bring the people's offerings of bread and wine, and money or other gifts, to the Presider.

The people stand while 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.

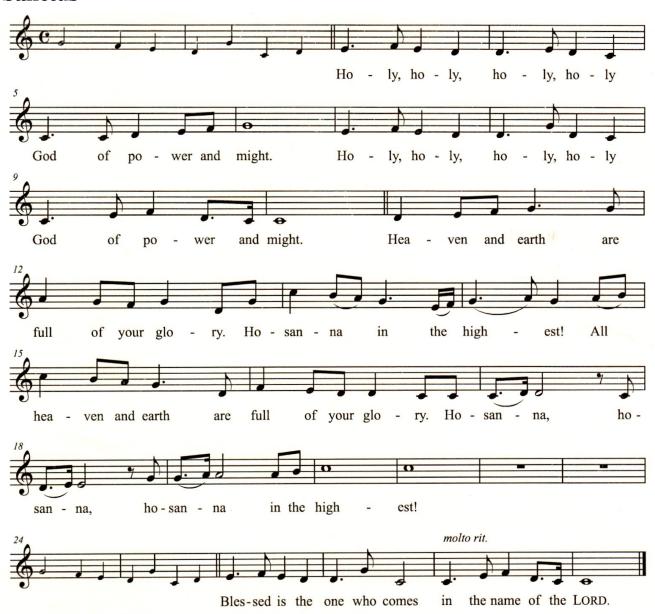
The Presider proceeds

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

Because in the mystery of the Word made flesh, you have caused a new light to shine in our hearts, to give the knowledge of your glory in the face of your Son 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 sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Sanctus



The people continue to stand, or kneel, as they are able.

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

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,
now and forever. Amen.

Breaking of the Bread

A period of silence is kept.

The Presider says

This is the true bread which comes down from heaven and gives life to the world. **Whoever eats this bread will live for ever.**

These are the Gifts of God.

And we are the people of God.

All are welcome to receive Holy Communion.

After Communion, the Presider 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

Go into the world, and know how much a tired and hurting world needs your strength and gladness. For there are deeds of compassion and courage that will never be done, unless you do them; and words of hope and healing that will never be spoken, unless you speak them.

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

Concluding Hymn

Hymnal 135

Songs of thankfulness and praise



Dismissal

Minister And now, my brothers and sisters in Christ, I bid you go out as did St Barnabas,

the Encourager. Go out with joy and in peace, to love and serve our Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

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:

February 11 Province of the Episcopal Church of South Sudan

Diocese of Michigan Cycle of Prayer:

February 11 St Andrew's, Livonia; Grace Church, Boca Chica, DR

St Barnabas Cycle of Prayer: Jerry, Amy, Nannette

and our continuing prayers for: Jim M, Mardi, Pat, Robert, Selenah

Faith in Action provides leadership in collecting donations to support households in need in the Chelsea and Dexter areas. They are in need of our continuing help. 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 at the church** is next Sunday, **February 18**. Please contribute as generously as you can.

Upcoming Commemorations

February 11 Frances Jane (Fanny) Van Alstyne Crosby: Hymnwriter, 1915

- 12 Charles Freer Andrews: Priest and "Friend of the Poor" in India, 1940
- 13 Absalom Jones, Priest, 1818
- 14 Cyril and Methodius, Missionaries, 869 and 885
- 15 Thomas Bray, Priest and Missionary, 1730
- 16 Charles Todd Quintard: Bishop of Tennessee, 1898
- 17 Janani Luwum, Archbishop and Martyr, 1977

Epiphany 6B February 11, 2024



2 Kings 2:1-12

Elisha and the company of prophets knew the great prophet Elijah would leave them, that God would take him away soon. Elijah himself could

sense he would soon leave this earth, and he asks Elisha what he can do for Elisha. Elisha asks Elijah for a portion of his spirit, like an inheritance for a firstborn. Elisha has been with him for some time now and sees him as a father; Elisha vows not to leave Elijah's side when Elijah tells Elisha to stay behind. He knew Elijah's time was coming to an end and wanted to be with Elijah as much as possible.

After Elijah ascends, Elisha takes up Elijah's mantle (the mantle being the symbol of prophetic power), the origin of this common phrase. Elijah knows Elisha is to be his successor, yet, in his faith, he leaves that fate in the hands of God.

Elisha sees Elijah ascend into heaven; Elisha mourns and tears his clothes. Following this passage, we see the grief Elisha experiences in mourning leads him to cry out and ask where the Lord, the God of Elijah, is. God seems to respond by parting the waters as Elisha strikes them, and this exhibits the connection between Elijah and Elisha. They are so intimately connected, Elisha performs some of the same miracles Elijah did.

- What mantles have you taken up? What spiritual authority have you received from your mentors?
- What gifts do we leave behind for those who learn from us and look up to us?
- What spiritual inheritances have you received? From whom did you receive them?

Psalm 50:1-6

In this opening of Psalm 50, God reveals Godself and God's glory is not strictly silent. God speaks and the earth is, the rising and the setting of the sun is. This psalm evokes creation by echoing God's calling of the earth and heavens and sun, and this psalm also evokes the Day of Judgment.

The description of God and God's acts here are different from other revelations of God seen in the Scriptures, like when God revealed Godself to Elijah. Elijah sees God's back and God is in the sound, or the voice, of sheer silence (1 Kings 19:12). The contrast is one reminder that God's revelation – and Godself – is not limited.

- What glory do you experience in "silence"?
- What silence is found in the forces of nature?
- What images and forces come to mind when you think about God?

2 Corinthians 4:3-6

Paul's second letter to the Corinthians contains some responses to Paul's critics who felt he was being crafty or cunning in order to withhold the Gospel or parts of it. In this passage from 2 Corinthians, Paul explains that it is not he who is hiding the Gospel, but the powers of this world. Paul explains that when one turns to Christ, the blinding veil is removed. The base assumption for Paul is that the Gospel is not veiled – the Gospel is unveiled and a light shining

through darkness. Christ removes the veil that the powers of this world pull over our eyes and we see the light that God has made shine in darkness.

At the Epiphany and the season that follows, we look at the ways God has made light shine in our world with our passages about Jesus' works in the world. As we come to the end of this season, after the realization that God has made light shine into our world, how do we carry this light through changing seasons in our life (i.e., Lent)? In what ways has God made light shine in our hearts?

• As messengers of the Gospel, in what ways do we carry God's unveiled light for all, even our critics, to see?

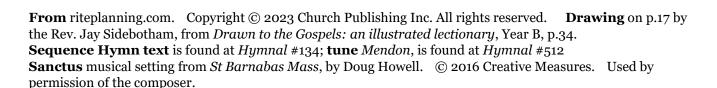
Mark 9:2-9

In this scene, Jesus is talking with Elijah and Moses. Yet, there are no recorded words of this conversation. In this moment of God's glory revealed in the Transfiguration of Christ Jesus, as the disciples stood stunned and as Jesus spoke with Moses and Elijah, there is silence.

Peter, James, and John had been with Jesus for some time now and witnessed his many works, like walking on water. Yet, at the Transfiguration, they were still shocked to see Jesus' divinity revealed in glory. Silence may unsettle us. And, like Peter, we may start talking simply to fill the air because we are uncomfortable in silence. Still, even in confusion and fear and trembling and silence, light shines and God speaks. We may not fully comprehend why we are there at that moment, why we have the privilege to be on the mountaintop to witness a revelation, but as disciples, we may be called simply to listen.

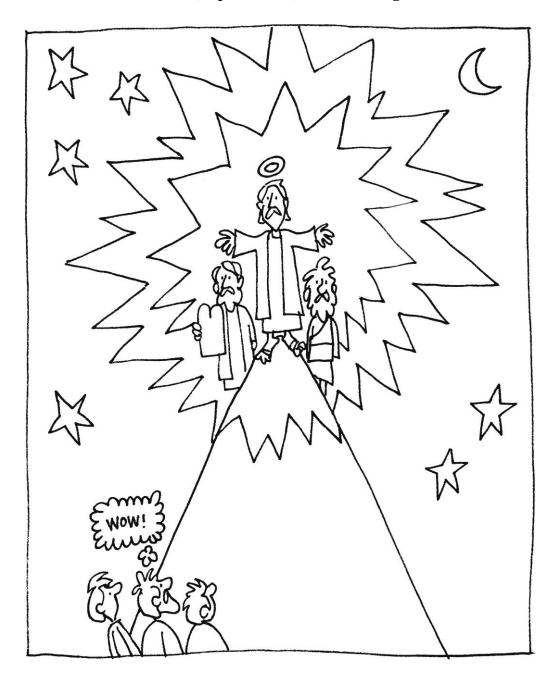
- What about silence unsettles? What prompts you to fill a void seen in silence?
- Think about the times you have caught glimpses of God's glory and your reaction.
- Think about the light you have witnessed and received from God and from spiritual mentors. How you will carry that light in a world where many are blinded by a veil of the powers of this world?

This Bible study was written by Joseph Cundiff



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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