Welcome to Worship on this Transfiguration of Our Lord Sunday Blended Service



French River Lutheran Church Duluth, MN

February 11, 2024 ~10:00 a.m.

Reverend Kim Sturtz ~ Presiding

Worship Assistant: Haeli Pettis

Lectors: Sue Baker

Altar Guild: Lynne Compton & Brita Aug

Musician: Organist - David Fiebiger; Riversong Rising;

* Coffee Fellowship to follow worship!

Welcome to all in Jesus' Name!

Please follow the current FRLC Preparedness Plan for COVID-19. Details are located under announcements in this bulletin. LARGE PRINT worship folders are available from an usher. A family restroom and nursery are to the left of the sanctuary; again, follow the Preparedness Plan for use. To contact the pastor or church office, you are invited to complete a pew card and return the information portion either to an usher or by way of the offering plate. Please keep the bookmark and worship with us again! We appreciate electronic devices set on "mute" during the service.

Bold Print signals places where the assembly speaks in unity in worship

* Indicates where to stand as you are able in body or in Spirit.

WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS:

PRELUDE:

Organist: David Fiebiger

———GATHERING——— The Holy Spirit gathers us together as people of God

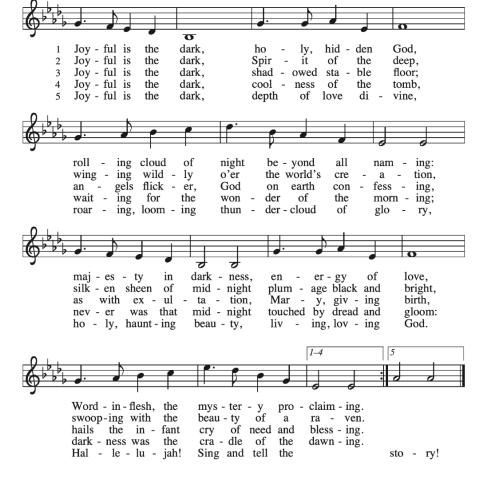
*GREETING:

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

*GATHERING HYMN: "Joyful Is the Dark"

ACS #1096

Joyful Is the Dark



Text: Brian Wren, b. 1936

Music: LINDNER, Carlton R. Young, b. 1926

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*CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS:

(All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.)

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom 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 Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

(Silence is kept for reflection.)

Most merciful God, we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. 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. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name.

Amen.

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

	Riversong Rising
*SONG OF PRAISE: "Holy is the Lord"	~Chris Tomlin

Verse

We stand and lift up our hands For the joy of the Lord is our strength We bow down and worship Him now How great how awesome is He

Pre-Chorus

And together we sing Ev'ryone sing

Chorus

Holy is the Lord God Almighty The earth is filled with His glory Holy is the Lord God Almighty The earth is filled with His glory The earth is filled with His glory

Bridge

It is rising up all around It's the anthem of the Lord's renown It's rising up all around It's the anthem of the Lord's renown

Chris Tomlin, Louie Giglio
CCLI Song #4158039
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CCLI License #21715447

*PRAYER OF THE DAY:

Almighty God, the resplendent light of your truth shines from the mountaintop into our hearts. Transfigure us by your beloved Son, and illumine the world with your image, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

———WORD———

God speaks to us through scripture, preaching, and song.

A reading from 2 Kings:

Today's reading centers on the transfer of power and authority from the prophet Elijah to Elisha. Their travels, which retrace the path of Joshua back to Moab (the place where Moses died) and the parting of the waters, demonstrate that Elisha and Elijah are legitimate successors of the great prophet Moses.

FIRST READING: 2 Kings 2:1-12

Sue Baker

Now when the LORD was about to take Elijah up to heaven by a whirlwind, Elijah and Elisha were on their way from Gilgal. Elijah 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. The 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."

Elijah 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. The 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."

Then 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. Fifty men of the company of prophets also went, and stood at some distance from them, as they both were standing by the Jordan. Then 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.

When 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." He 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." As 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. Elisha 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.

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

PSALM: *Psalm* 50:1-6

Out of Zion, perfect in beauty, God shines forth in glory. (Ps. 50:2)

The mighty one, God the LORD, has spoken;

calling the earth from the rising of the sun to its setting.

Out of Zion, perfect in its beauty,

God shines forth in glory.

Our God will come and will not keep silence;

with a consuming flame before, and round about a raging storm.

God calls the heavens and the earth from above

to witness the judgment of the people. "Gather before me my loyal followers,

those who have made a covenant with me and sealed it with sacrifice."

The heavens declare the rightness of God's cause,

for it is God who is judge.

A reading from 2 Corinthians:

The spotlight of Christian ministry is not on the people who carry out ministry but on the Lord Jesus Christ. Just as God made light shine at creation, God makes the light of Jesus Christ shine in our lives through Christian ministry.

SECOND READING: 2 Corinthians 4:3-6

Even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. In 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. For we do not proclaim ourselves; we proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and ourselves as your slaves for Jesus' sake. For 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.

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: Celtic Alleluia

(The assembly stands to welcome the gospel.)



*GOSPEL: Mark 9:2-9

The Holy Gospel according to *Mark 9:2-9.* **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Mark's gospel presents the transfiguration as a preview of what would become apparent to Jesus' followers after he rose from the dead. Confused disciples are given a vision of God's glory manifest in the beloved Son.

Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and John, and led them up a high mountain apart, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no one on earth could bleach them. And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses, who were talking with Jesus. Then 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." He did not know what to say, for they were terrified. Then a cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud there came a voice, "This is my Son, the Beloved; listen to him!" Suddenly when they looked around, they saw no one with them any more, but only Jesus.

As they were coming down the mountain, he ordered them to tell no one about what they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead.

The gospel of the Lord. Praise to you, O Christ.

CHILDREN'S SERMON:

The Reverend Kim Sturtz

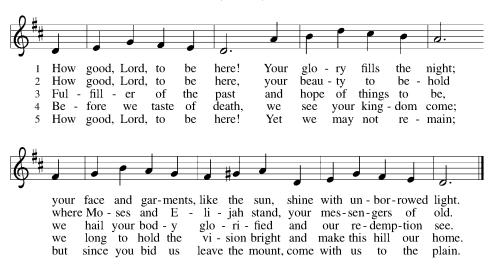
SERMON:

The Reverend Kim Sturtz

*HYMN OF THE DAY: "How Good, Lord, to Be Here!"

ELW #315

How Good, Lord, to Be Here!



Text: Joseph A. Robinson, 1858–1933, alt. Music: POTSDAM, W. Mercer, *The Church Psalter and Hymn Book*, 1854

*APOSTLES' CREED:

I believe in God, the Father almighty. creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead.* On the third day he rose again: he ascended into heaven. he is seated at the right hand of the Father. and he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body.

*PEACE: The Peace of the Lord be with you always. And also with you. Please share this peace with your neighbors.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE:

and the life everlasting. Amen.

Sue Baker

As we celebrate Christ embodied in human form, we pray for God's blessing on the church, the world, and all of creation.

(A brief silence.)

We pray for the church, that the transformational power of God enters the hearts of all people. May its leaders serve as examples of your grace and healing across time and space. God of grace,

receive our prayer.

We pray for the creation, that we will humbly observe the swirl of wind and the heat of the bright sun. Teach us to honor all you have made and to care for the animals, plants, air, and bodies of water of this planet. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

We pray for those charged with leadership, lawmaking, and governance of our towns, states, and countries, that they will strive for goodness and justice all the days of their lives and callings. God of grace,

receive our prayer.

We pray for any who are sick and suffering. Guide us to offer hospitality, shelter, friendship, and care to any in need. God of grace,

receive our prayer.

We pray for this congregation and its ministry in the wider community. May we share the transforming beauty and love of God in ways that honor the dignity of all whom we encounter. God of grace,

receive our prayer.

Trusting that all the saints, prophets, and those who die in faith are held in your care, we remember in thanksgiving those who have died. Grant us your gift of salvation as we await your coming again in glory. God of grace, receive our prayer.

Knowing the Holy Spirit intercedes for us, we offer these prayers and the silent prayers of our hearts in the name of our Savior, Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

*OFFERING PRAYER:

(If you did not place your offering in the plate as you entered the sanctuary, please feel free to hand it to an usher upon dismissal. During the week, offerings may be placed in the secure lockbox by the lower doors [slot is right of the door]. Mail and online giving are also available. Thank you for your generous support of our ministry together!)

Blessed are you, Holy One, for all good things come from you. In bread and cup you open heaven to us. Meet us at this table, that we receive what we seek and follow your Son, Jesus, in whose name we pray.

Amen.

———MEAL———

God feeds us in goodness and grace with the presence of Jesus Christ.

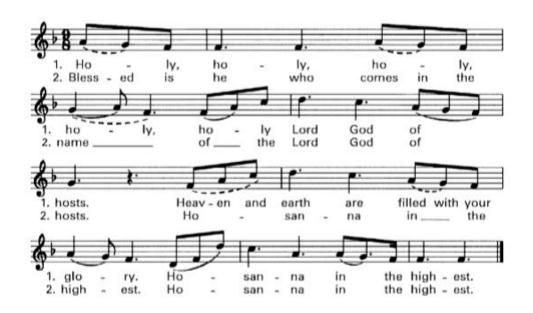
All are welcome at the Lord's Table to receive the true presence of Jesus in the bread and wine. Communion will be distributed continuously using the form of intinction. After you have received the bread, you may "intinct" (dip) it in the wine or juice. Children not communing may come forward for a blessing. Commune with the pastor if you prefer a gluten-free wafer.

*WORDS OF INSTITUTION & BLESSING:

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

*PREFACE: Transfiguration

*Holy, Holy, Holy: by Grayson Brown



*WORDS OF INSTITUTION:

*LORD'S PRAYER:

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

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.

*INVITATION TO COMMUNION:

At Jesus' table, heaven and earth are joined as one. Come and see.

INTERLUDE: Lamb of God ~David Clark Isele



*COMMUNION SONG: "Come to the Table"

~Sidewalk Prophets **Riversong Rising**

Verse 1

We all start on the outside

The outside looking in

This is where grace begins

We were hungry we were thirsty

With nothing left to give

Oh the shape that we were in

Pre-Chorus

Just when all hope seemed lost Love opened the door for us

Chorus

(He said) come to the table

Come join the sinners who have been redeemed

Take your place beside the Savior

Sit down and be set free

(Come to the table)

Verse 2

Come meet this motley crew of misfits
These liars and these thieves
There's no one unwelcome here
So that sin and shame that you've brought with you
You can leave it at the door
And let mercy draw you near

Bridge

To the thief and to the doubter

To the hero and the coward

To the pris'ner and the soldier

To the young and to the older

All who hunger all who thirst

All the last and all the first

All the paupers and the princes

All who've failed you've been forgiven

All who dream and all who suffer

All who've loved and lost another

All the chained and all the free

All who follow all who lead

Anyone who's been let down

All the lost you have been found

All who've been labeled right or wrong

To ev'ryone who hears this song

Ending

Woah sit down and be set free

Come to the table

Come to the table

Just sit down and rest awhile

Just sit down and rest awhile

Come to the table

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*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION:

Giver of every gift, Christ's body is our food, and we are Christ's body. Raise us to life by your power for the benefit of all and to your glory, now and forever.

Amen.

————SENDING———

God blesses us and equips us as disciples sent into the world

*BLESSING:

God who names you, Christ who claims you, and the Holy Spirit who dwells in you, → bless you and remain with you always. **Amen**.

*SENDING SONG: "Hallelujah Feeling"

~Caleb & John Riversong Rising

Verse 1

Some days I climb the mountains
Some days I touch the clouds
Some days my best friend
Has been the cold hard ground
There's mercy new each morning
Comfort through the night
My eyes are fixed on Jesus
And I'm gonna be alright

Chorus

I got that hallelujah feeling down in my soul
I got that hallelujah feeling and it won't let go
I've been born again yes and amen
No matter what comes I know
I got that hallelujah feeling down in my soul

Tag

Hallelujah hallelujah

Verse 2

Oh just because it's raining
Doesn't mean the sun won't shine
There's a season for the struggle
And a season for the prize
But my hope is never fading
'Cause it's anchored in the truth

My Father goes before me And His joy will see me through

Bridge

When everything is shaking

Got that solid rock like pavement

I might bend but I'm not breaking

(1st) I know who's on my side

(2nd) The Lord is on my side

Caleb Crino, Jake Henry, Jeff Pardo, John Secker; CCLI Song #7215271
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*SENDING:

Go in peace. You are God's beloved.

Thanks be to God.

(For those in pews, please remain seated until invited by an usher to depart.)

POSTLUDE:

Organist: David Fiebiger

Thank you for joining us wherever you are. Remember, you are beloved and blessed!

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Coming Up:

2/11 Sun: 10a - Transfiguration of Our Lord Sunday

Blended Worship In-Person/Online: Rev. Kim Sturtz

10:45a – Sunday School

11:15a – Coffee Fellowship

2/12 Mon: 6p – Adult Bible Study; 7p – Finance

2/13 Tues: 9a – Bulletin Deadline; 7p – Council; 7p – AA

2/14 Wed: Ash Wednesday: 2-4p — Ashes-to-go;

6p – Ash Wednesday Service

2/15 Thurs: 1p – French River Readers; 5p – Riversong Rising

2/18 Next Sun: 10a - First Sunday in Lent - Contemporary

In-Person/Online: Rev. Kim Sturtz

10:45a – Sunday School 11:15a – Coffee Fellowship

ANNOUNCEMENTS

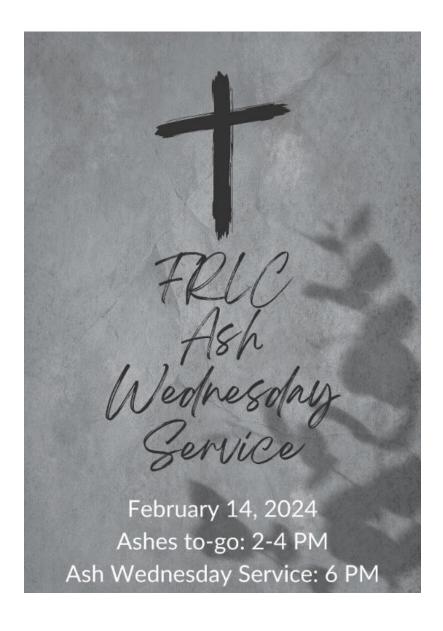
*Extending sympathy to family & friends of Carol Pearson. Carol passed away on Sunday, January 28, 2024. A Celebration of Life will be held at FRLC on Saturday, February 24, 2024 at 11 a.m.

Covid-19 Preparedness

In the care and consideration of others, the wearing of masks is optional for worship. However, if you or a family member are experiencing any fever, cough, stomach issues, or are recovering from an illness or other ailments within 48 hours before gathering in worship, we strongly advise the wearing of a mask while in worship.

A simple mask in these moments and places helps us protect loved ones, especially the weak and elderly, front-line medical personnel and their families, our faith community and larger communities.

Thank you for this kindness.





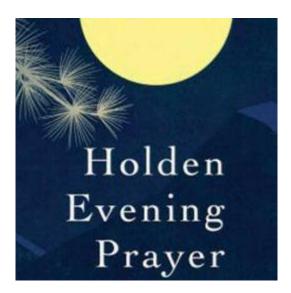
Adult Bible Study participants: we will meet Feb. 12 at 6:00 p.m. and then not again until April 1. You are encouraged to attend mid-week services and soup suppers during Lent.

Lenten Soup Supper and Services

Wednesdays starting February 21st through March 20th.

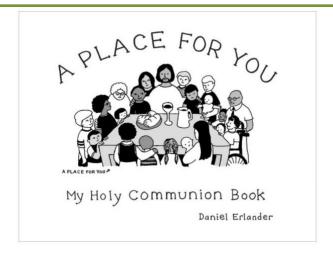
Join us at 5:30pm Soup Supper, 6:30pm Holden Evening Prayer Service.

Please come and enjoy community in contemplative space and time.



Your 2024 offering envelopes can be picked up near the usher's stand. If you didn't get a box of envelopes and want one or if you have any questions, please contact Kay Libby, Financial Secretary, at 218-390-3281.

Youth in Worship - February 28th: Is your child interested in reading, being an usher/greeter, acolyte, special music? Please contact Kim Marks at FRLCYouth@gmail.com to sign up!



5:30-7pm February 29, March 7, March 14th in the Fireside Room.

For any child/youth interested in learning that there is a place for you at the Table of Grace First Communion will be given on Maundy Thursday Service March 28 at 6pm. Please Let Pastor Kim Sturtz know if you would like your child would like to participate.

frlcpastorsturtz@gmail.com

FRLC Centennial Celebration!

We now have co-chairs, Kate Edblom & Barb Jackson, to plan the FRLC Centennial fundraisers to raise money for expenses of the celebration in September of 2024.

There will be an organizational meeting soon. Please leave your name & number with Barb, Kate, or the office if you are interested in helping!



Welcome to French River Lutheran Church

You are welcome to keep this bulletin, however, we recycle when possible so you may leave it on the ushers' stand.

Immediate: Family & friends of Carol Pearson; Family & friends of Bob Bradley; Family & friends of John Bowen; Family & friends of David Peterson (brother of Paul Peterson); Bonnie Smrstick; prayers for peace and comfort both as she travels to be with Dennis as he is nearing the end of his journey.; Deb Sodomka (cousin of Bill & Susie Lannon).

<u>Long-Term</u>: Phil Strom, for Parkinsons; Julie Moe-Hommerding; 5-year-old great niece of Susie Lannon (heart surgery 6/26/17, still not healthy); Kathy Johnson (Carol Leppala's friend); Bruce Sundberg; Angela Debelak, (niece of Gail Johnson) is currently in remission from for her brain cancer and recovering slowly; please continue to pray for no recurrence.; Alex Peterson – military service; Todd Sironen.

WHEN SUBMITTING A NAME TO THE TELEPHONE PRAYER CHAIN, PLEASE INDICATE IF IT IS PERMISSABLE TO LIST IN THE BULLETIN.

Called by the Spirit	February 11	February 18
Worship Leader	Rev. Kim Sturtz	Rev. Kim Sturtz
Lector	Sue Baker	Joanne Kronstedt
Altar Guild	Lynne C. & Brita A.	Lynne C. & Brita A.
Ushers	Doug & Lynne Compton	Kevin S. & Jacquie E.
Counters/Worship	ArMand Nelson/	T.B.D./
Assistant*	Haeli Pettis*	Rolf Carlson*
Coffee Fellowship	Heather, Dick, Tracey	Kim Burke
Prayer Chain	Babs Strom 218.525.6200	

French River Lutheran Church, 5310 Ryan Rd, Duluth, MN 55804

Church: (218)525-5659; frlc5310@gmail.com

Pr. Kim Sturtz: (218)393-7444; frlcpastorsturtz@gmail.com

Office hours vary so please call ahead.

FRLC webpage: <u>www.frenchriverlutheran.org.</u>

FRLC Mission: "To live and love as God commands, accept His grace, and share the Good News."

Watch services at FRLC anytime! **YouTube live streaming of the service** at https://www.youtube.com/c/FrenchRiverLutheranChurch

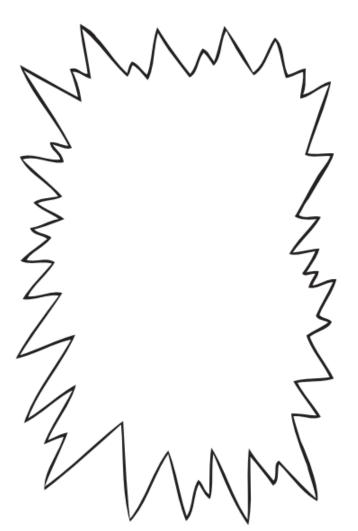
This link is also found on our church homepage and Facebook group. If you are unable to watch it live, you can view it any time after the service by following the same link.

🕇 We're glad you worshiped with us today. Thanks be to God! 🕇

Jesus glowed with light during the Transfiguration. Light is very important in church.

Draw or write the places where you see light used in your church.



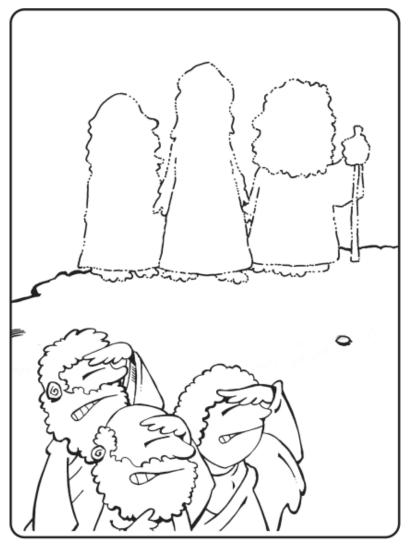




- Today is Transfiguration Sunday.
- During the Transfiguration, Jesus appeared with Elijah and Moses.
- God said "This is my Son. Listen to him."

Color in the picture of Jesus, Elijah, and Moses. Then color light all around them.



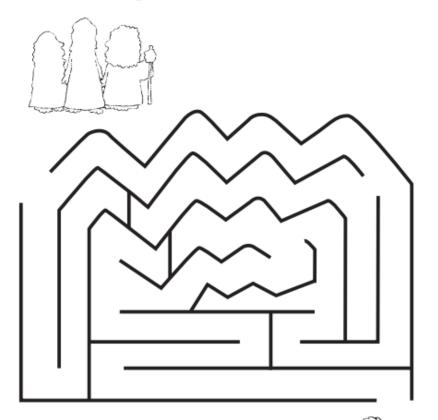


"This is my Son. Listen to him."



Peter, James, and John climbed a mountain with Jesus. Something special happened at the top. Jesus started glowing with light.

Help Peter, James, and John find their way to Jesus on top of the mountain.





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The Light

Circle a candle below for each candle you see in your worship space.

How many candles total?

Where in your church do you see candles?







	NOS
To do wrong	NIS
Storage container	RIN
You do this at an auction	BID
Small amount	TIB
Nickname for "robot"	BOT
a vice giff	109
	000

MORD DROP SOLUTION





- Today is Transfiguration Sunday.
- The symbol of the Transfiguration is a burst of light.
- Light guides us and tells us where to go.
- During the Transfiguration, God appeared as light in Jesus.

Word Drop

During the Transfiguration, the disciples saw God in Jesus. Change one letter per word to see if you can turn "God" into the "Son."

GOD	
	a nice gift
	Nickname for "robot"
	Small amount
	You do this at an auction
	Storage container
	To do wrong
SON	_







them, and from the cloud there came a



Beloved;



to him!"

-Mark 9:7



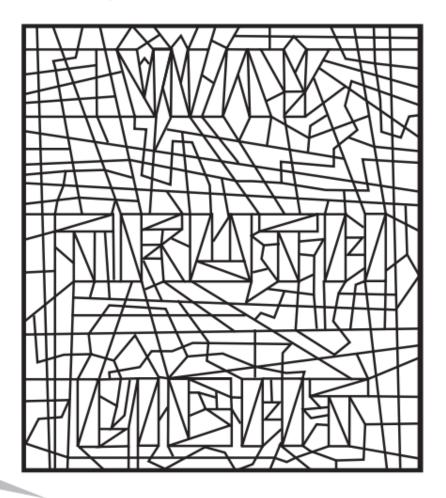
How many mountain stories can you find in the Bible? Check out Genesis 22:1-19, Matthew 5:1-12, and Matthew 28:16-20.



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Spreading the Word

Color in the triangles to fill in the blanks and find out what Jesus was.





You probably know about Moses from the Old
Testament, but what do you remember about
the prophet Elijah? Read 1 Kings 17–19 to
learn more about him.