

*Today's service is being broadcast on Facebook Live at 11 am. You can access the service through the Oaklette Church Group on Facebook. You can also access the service through the Oaklette UMC Facebook page. If you are unable to use Facebook Live a link can be sent to you by email after the Facebook Live Worship has been recorded, but we will need your email address to do this. The Facebook Live service will also be uploaded to our website Sunday afternoon.*

*The flowers on the altar are presented to the glory of God.*

**PARTNERS IN MINISTRY TODAY**

**Members of the Church**

**Nursery Care Providers: Lisa & Brooks Ryno**

**Prayer Partner: Brenda Swoope**

**Lay Reader: Debbie Rippard**

**Audio-Visual Operator: Ericka Litten**

**Greeter: Joanne Rooks**

**Pastor: Rev. Ned Alderman**

**Administrative Assistant: Eileen Ballance**

**Financial Secretary: Edna Bess**

**Coastal Virginia Dist. Superintendent: Rev. Beth Givens**

**Resident Bishop, Richmond Area: Bishop Sue Hauptert-Johnson**



***Oaklette United Methodist Church***

***“God's Body in this Community”***

“Oaklette United Methodist Church through worship, education, and outreach, seeks to make the gospel of Jesus Christ real, as we minister to all people.”

***February 15, 2026***

***Transfiguration Sunday***



*Welcome in the name of our Lord. A nurturing and well-supervised nursery is available for infants and young children. A cry room is also available. Please ask the greeter for further assistance and directions to these rooms.*

**GREETING**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**JOYS AND CONCERNS**

**BREAKTHROUGH PRAYER**

Loving, sustaining God, like the mighty oak, may our branches at Oaklette church embrace those around us in this community. Use us as an instrument to welcome and shelter your people. Deepen our roots so that our branches are strong. Let the Holy Spirit flow like a river through our church, so that we may do your will. In Jesus' holy name, Amen.

**OPENING SCRIPTURE**

**MATTHEW 16:13-16, 20-21, 24-27 NIV**

When Jesus came to the region of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, “Who do people say the Son of Man is?”

They replied, “Some say John the Baptist; others say Elijah; and still others, Jeremiah or one of the prophets.”

“But what about you?” he asked. “Who do you say I am?”

Simon Peter answered, “You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.”

Then he ordered his disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

From that time on Jesus began to explain to his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer many things at the hands of the elders, the chief priests and the teachers of the law, and that he must be killed and on the third day be raised to life.

Then Jesus said to his disciples, “Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me will find it. What good will it be for someone to gain the whole world, yet forfeit their soul? Or what can anyone give in exchange for their soul? For

the Son of Man is going to come in his Father’s glory with his angels, and then he will reward each person according to what they have done.

**OLD TESTAMENT READING** **EXODUS 24:12, 15-18 NIV**

The Lord said to Moses, “Come up to me on the mountain and stay here, and I will give you the tablets of stone with the law and commandments I have written for their instruction.”  
When Moses went up on the mountain, the cloud covered it, and the glory of the Lord settled on Mount Sinai. For six days the cloud covered the mountain, and on the seventh day the Lord called to Moses from within the cloud. To the Israelites the glory of the Lord looked like a consuming fire on top of the mountain. Then Moses entered the cloud as he went on up the mountain. And he stayed on the mountain forty days and forty nights.

**PRELUDE** **“IN THE PRESENCE OF JEHOVAH”** **DANA MOODY**

**PASSING OF THE PEACE**

**MESSAGE FOR GROWING CHRISTIANS**

**CALL TO WORSHIP (responsively)**  
From the mountaintop, we gain perspective, a rare panoramic view.  
**All is well in the presence of God, where love and forgiveness reign in our hearts.**  
“It is good for us to be here,” we say to ourselves, wishing that we could stay.  
**But others need to climb this mountain, as they long for God’s love to find them.**  
Our journey has only begun.  
**Precious Lord, let us walk with you as you have walked with us – to mountaintops, through low valleys, to the cross and to life eternal, through the grace of Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**  
*Scifres, Mary; Beu, B.J.. The Abingdon Worship Annual 2020: Worship Planning Resources for Every Sunday of the Year (pp. 38-39). Abingdon Press. Kindle Edition.*

**OPENING PRAYER**  
**Holy God, mighty and immortal, you are beyond our knowing, yet we see your glory in the face of Jesus Christ, whose compassion illumines the world. Transform us into the likeness of the love of Christ, who renewed our humanity so that we may share in his divinity, the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit. Amen.**  
*Reproduced from Revised Common Lectionary Prayers © 2002 Consultation on Common Texts admin. Augsburg Fortress.*

**HYMN** **“LEAD ON, O CLOUD OF PRESENCE”** **TFWS #2234**  
Lead on, O cloud of presence, the exodus is come;  
in wilderness and desert our tribe shall make its home.  
Our slavery left behind us, new hopes within us grow.  
We seek the land of promise where milk and honey flow.

**DOXOLOGY**  
**Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise Him all creatures here below. Praise Him above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

**HYMN** **“COME, LET US DREAM”** **W&S #3157**  
Come, let us dream God’s dream again.  
Come one and all, let us ascend  
the mountain top where those of old  
saw God’s new day on earth unfold.  
  
The lame shall walk, the blind shall see,  
the doors swing wide, all prisoners free,  
the lowly raised, the proud brought low.  
This is God’s dream: let justice flow.  
  
When hatred ends and war shall cease,  
so all may dwell in deepest peace,  
then be assured the time is near  
when perfect love casts out all fear.  
  
But know the cost of claiming sight  
of God’s new day, of wrongs made right,  
for some have paid the highest price,  
their lives for us, a sacrifice.  
  
Prophets are scorned in their own lands  
and martyrs slain by righteous hands;  
though dreamers die, the dream will live,  
for we have yet our lives to give.

**BENEDICTION**  
Christ has been revealed to us that we might follow him and transform the world. Go in love; work for peace.  
*Long, Kimberly Bracken. Feasting on the Word Worship Companion: Liturgies for Year A, Volume 1 (p. 87). Presbyterian Publishing Corporation. Kindle Edition.*

**POSTLUDE** **“O SPLENDOR OF GOD’S HOLY BRIGHT”** **DANA MOODY**

Lead on, O fiery Pillar; we follow yet with fears,  
but we shall come rejoicing though joy be born of tears.  
We are not lost, though wandering, for by Your light we come,  
and we are still God's people. The journey is our home.

Lead on, O God of freedom, and guide us on our way,  
and help us trust the promise through struggle and delay.  
We pray our sons and daughters may journey to that land  
where justice dwells with mercy, and love is law's demand.

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**All: Holy God, we confess that we do not trust You fully. We put our hope in worldly gain and in human promises, and find ourselves defeated and lost when things fall apart. You have given us a love more full than anything we could experience in this world, but we do not seek it. We do not hold on to it, and we look to our own means of assurance and security. Forgive us. Call us back to You that we may put our trust in You and not be afraid.**

**May we hear the words so clearly as the disciples did on the day of the Transfiguration; may we rise up and not be afraid. In the name of Jesus, who loves us and offers us forgiveness, we pray. Amen.**

You are God's Beloved; with you, God is well pleased. You are renewed and restored. You are forgiven, and loved. You are a new creation in Christ, everything old has passed away, see, everything is becoming new. Go and share the good news of God's love.

*Written by Rev. Mindi and posted on Rev-o-lution, <http://rev-o-lution.org/>. Re-posted on the re:Worship blog at <https://re-worship.blogspot.com/2015/02/prayer-of-confession-for.html>*

### THE LORD'S PRAYER

**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. Amen.**

### ANTHEM

**“BECAUSE YOU ARE“**

**CHANCEL CHOIR**

### GOSPEL READING

**MATTHEW 17:1-9, NIV**

After six days Jesus took with him Peter, James and John the brother of James, and led them up a high mountain by themselves. There he was transfigured before them. His face shone like the sun, and his clothes became as white as the light. Just then there appeared before them Moses and Elijah, talking with Jesus. Peter said to Jesus, “Lord, it is good for us to be here. If you wish, I will put up three shelters – one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah.”

While he was still speaking, a bright cloud covered them, and a voice from the cloud said, “This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased. Listen to him!”

When the disciples heard this, they fell facedown to the ground, terrified. But Jesus came and touched them. “Get up,” he said. “Don’t be afraid.” When they looked up, they saw no one except Jesus. As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus instructed them, “Don’t tell anyone what you have seen, until the Son of Man has been raised from the dead.”

### LESSON

**“GET UP. DON’T BE AFRAID”**

**REV. NED ALDERMAN**

### RESPONSE TO THE WORD

*[A time of silence follows each petition.]*

Sovereign God, you revealed your love and guidance for us on Mount Sinai and the Mount of Transfiguration, giving us a vision of how to live in equity and peace. Trusting in your care for us, we bring to you our prayers.

We pray for your church, that it may be the light of love for all people.

We pray for the nations of the world, that their governors may be wise and compassionate.

We pray for those who suffer illness or oppression, that our care for them may bring your healing and liberation.

We pray for your creation, that we may be your wise and obedient stewards.

We pray for all those who are in search of you, that they may walk by the lamp of your Spirit and be at peace in your light now and forever.

Joined together in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all majesty and honor are yours, Holy One, forever and ever. **Amen.**

### INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

Our God has revealed to us a law and a love that leads us into becoming God's own daughters and sons. Therefore, let us gratefully give from that which has first been given to us, our lives, our talents, and our possessions.

*Long, Kimberly Bracken. Feasting on the Word Worship Companion: Liturgies for Year A, Volume 1 (pp. 86-87). Presbyterian Publishing Corporation. Kindle Edition.*

### PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND DEDICATION

**Radiant God, you meet us in moments of mystery and transformation, calling us to listen, to follow, and to give ourselves in love. As we offer these gifts, we confess our impatience with waiting and our longing for clarity, even when you speak from the cloud. Let these offerings be more than habit; let them reflect the light of Christ we have glimpsed on the mountaintop and the hope we carry into the valleys below. Use them – and us – to shine your love where shadows linger, until all your beloved children know they are seen, named, and cherished. In the name of your Beloved Son, we pray. Amen.**