

**Red Lodge Community Church
United Church of Christ
February 11, 2024**



Gathering Music

Welcome and Announcements

Bell Ringing

Prelude

Call to Worship (*Unison*)

From the rising of the sun to its setting

God speaks to us and summons us.

God gathers us in covenant,

God's glory shines forth.

Let us worship God!

Opening Hymn – “You Have Come Down to the Lakeshore” NCH #173

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

Mighty God, you call to us. You call to the heavens and to the earth in covenant. And so we call to you: be present as we worship. Gather us, that we may hear your voice and respond to your ways of righteousness. We pray in the power of your Holy Spirit. Amen.

PRAYER OF TRANSFORMATION (*Responsive*)

One/Presider: God invites us to come to worship as our whole selves. God offers us a new beginning day by day and week by week. Trusting in God, we pray for transformation and new life:

All: Mighty God, you call to us and summon us to live in covenant and walk in righteousness, yet we forsake your covenant and walk in ways of injustice, ignorance, or disdain. Your beauty shines forth in creation, yet we abuse and tarnish what you have created. May we be willing to do the hard thing: may we see what is happening. May we see what we do. Renew us. Let us receive a double portion of your renewing spirit. Amen.

WORDS OF GRACE *(Responsive)*

One: God's glory shines forth, and God judges with grace and with mercy. God gives us renewed life and our spirits rise.

All: Alleluia! Amen!

PASSING THE PEACE

As a sign of our acceptance of God's grace and our intention to follow Christ more faithfully, let us greet those near us with a sign of peace.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Immanuel, God-with-us, thank you for hearing our prayers as we offer the joys, concerns, griefs and sorrows of our community and our world. You always listen when we pray.

Today we celebrate... Today we pray for...

THE PRAYER OF OUR SAVIOR *(Unison)*

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 that trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

MESSAGE WITH THE CHILDREN

SACRED TEXT Psalms 50: 1-6, 2 Corinthians 4: 3-6, Mark 9: 2-9

Psalms 50: 1-6

The mighty one, God the LORD, speaks and summons the earth from the rising of the sun to its setting. Out of Zion, the perfection of beauty, God shines forth.

Our God comes and does not keep silent; before him is a devouring fire and a mighty tempest all around him. He calls to the heavens above and to the earth, that he may judge his people: "Gather to me my faithful ones, who made a covenant with me by sacrifice!" The heavens declare his righteousness, for God himself is judge. *Selah*

2 Corinthians 4: 3-6

And 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 clearly 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's sake. For it is the God who said, "Light will 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 Christ.

Mark 9: 2-9

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 bright, such as no one on earth could brighten 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 set up three tents: 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.

One: The Word of God for the People of God

All: Thanks Be to God

SPECIAL MUSIC "I Will Lift Up My Eyes" by Anna Laura Page sung by RLCC Choir

SERMON Steve Hanson

OFFERTORY

God's gifts to creation and to us are abundant and ever-new. Entrusted with creation's care and with care for one another, we share our gifts out of our own abundance.

DOXOLOGY

PRAYER OF DEDICATION (unison)

Let us pray: Mighty God, you live, and you do not leave us. With these gifts, we do not leave each other, but use them in mutual support. Bless those who receive and benefit from these gifts. May they know your presence with them. With these gifts, our prayers rise up to you. Amen.

CLOSING HYMN – “You Have Come Down to the Lakeshore” NCH #173

BENEDICTION

May you go renewed in spirit,
May you go, rising to new life,
May you go with God’s mantle of mercy
And blessing of peace upon you,
Now and forever.
Amen!

SENDING SONG- “You Have Come Down to the Lakeshore” NCH #173

“For information on joining Red Lodge Community Church, please talk with any of our deacons, or contact Mark Sechler at 573-415-7722 or sechlermc@gmail.com”

The Rising: Service Prayers for Transfiguration Sunday Year B was written by The Rev. Stephanie Perdew, PhD, Director, The Damascus Project, Shared Theological Education Ministry of the Wisconsin & Minnesota Conferences of the United Church of Christ.