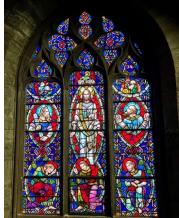
Carmel Presbyterian Church Transfiguration of the Lord Sunday Sacrament of Baptism February 27, 2022



"The Transfiguration" Jesus is transfigured on a high mountain, as Moses and Elijah talk with him. The disciples Peter, James and John are blinded and awed. Moses on the left holds a tablet of the Ten Commandments, and Elijah on the right is symbolized by the chariot of fire. (Window at Carmel right aisle.)

Order of Worship*

* Please stand, as able. Congregation voices **Bold** responses.

Greeting and Announcements -

Prelude – "Morning Has Broken" – arr. Arnold B. Sherman Handbell Choir

* Call to Worship (Spoken responsively) -

Something drew us together this morning.

Something we can't name but which we experience in worship.

Some holy mystery we call God.

Some sacred calling we hear in the life of Jesus.

Some indescribable hope we feel when we gather in the Spirit.

May our experience of the Divine transform our doubts and fears and prepare us to love the world!

* Opening Hymn No. 263 – "Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise" – (ST. DENIO)

Call to Confession (Spoken responsively) -

Peter, James, and John went up on the side of a mountain with Jesus and experienced glory. But then Peter wanted to stay:

"It's good for us to be here. Let's get comfortable."

We are also often tempted to keep the experience of the Divine to ourselves, to enjoy the company of the saints instead of going back down the mountain to continue the work of the Kingdom of God.

God knows this temptation of our hearts, so let us confess and pray for forgiveness.

Prayer of Confession (In unison) -

God of glory and light, forgive us when we are complacent and comfortable with keeping the riches of your love to ourselves. Keep calling us down from our mountains of privilege. Keep expecting more of us as your disciples. Keep reminding us to listen to your Son, in whose name we pray...

(A moment of silence for personal reflection & confession...)

Amen. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon (Spoken responsively) -

Whether we hear a voice from the heavens or a still small voice in our hearts, listen carefully for the love of God. Believe and accept God's love and live in God's freedom.

We believe! Thanks be to God!

Friends: believe the good news of the gospel!

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Alleluia! Amen.

* Gloria – Hymn No. 567 – "Glory to the Father" – (Gloria Patri)

* Passing of the Peace (Spoken responsively) -

Those who place their faith in the Lord are blessed.

Let us share this blessing with those around us as we pass the peace of Christ.

Let the Christ in you greet the Christ in another with signs of peace and reconciliation.

Peace be with you!

(Remaining in your pew, greet one another, sharing God's peace now and throughout the week.)

Anthem – "Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us" – William Bradley Roberts

Gabriella and Sophia Keshishian

Heather Coelho, flute

(Following the Anthem, the Junior Choir members will remain for the Children's Message and throughout the Baptism and the younger children will come forward.)

Savior, like a shepherd lead us; much we need thy tender care: in thy pleasant pastures feed us; for our use thy folds prepare. Blessed Jesus! Blessed Jesus! Thou hast bought us, thine we are. Blessed Jesus! Blessed Jesus! Thou hast bought us, thine we are.

Early let us seek thy favor, early let us learn thy will; do thou, Lord, our only Savior, with thy love our bosoms fill. Blessed Jesus! Blessed Jesus! Thou hast loved us: love us still. Blessed Jesus! Blessed Jesus! Thou hast loved us: love us still.

Children's Message – Pastor Peter

(Children and youth will remain for the Baptism. Following the Baptism, children third-grade and below are invited to depart for Children's Worship downstairs in Carmel Hall. Junior Choir members may return to their seats.)

The Sacrament of Baptism – Elder Nancy O'Brien and Pastor Peter

Introduction

Presentation – Elder Nancy O'Brien

On behalf of the session, I present Jack Robert Mahon, son of Rebecca Susan Lohoefer-Mahon and Jeffery Michael Mahon, to receive the sacrament of Baptism. I also present Julia and Kevin Kozak as sponsors.

Questions to the Parents and Sponsors

Rebecca and Jeff and Julia and Kevin: Show your purpose by answering these questions,

Who is your Lord and Savior?

Jesus Christ is my Lord and Savior.

Do you trust in him?

l do.

Jeff and Rebecca: Do you intend Jack to be his disciple, to obey his word and show his love?

I do.

Kevin and Julia: Do you promise, through prayer and example, to support and encourage [Name] to be a faithful Christian?

I do.

Question to the Congregation – Elder Nancy O'Brien

Our Lord Jesus ordered us to teach those who are baptized. Do you, the people of the church, promise to tell this child the good news of the gospel, to help Jack know all that Christ commands, and, by your fellowship, to strengthen Jack's family ties with the household of God?

We do.

Baptism Prayer

Let us pray.

God our Father: we thank you for your faithfulness, promised in this sacrament, and for the hope we have in your Son Jesus. As we baptize with water, baptize us with Holy Spirit, so that what we say may be your word and what we do may be your work. By your power, may we be made one with Christ our Lord in common faith and purpose.

O God, who called us from death to life: we give ourselves to you, and, with the church through all ages, we thank you for your saving love in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Baptism of Jack Robert Mahon

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Almighty God, giver of life: you have called us by name, and pledged to each of us your faithful love. We pray for your child, Jack Robert Mahon. Watch over him. Guide Jack as he grows in faith. Give Jack understanding, and a quick concern for neighbors. Help him to be a true disciple of Jesus Christ, who was baptized your Son and servant, who is our risen Lord. Amen.

God of grace, Father of us all: we pray for parents Rebecca and Jeff and sponsors Julia and Kevin. Help them to know you, to love with your love, to teach your truth, and to tell the story of Jesus to their child, so that your word may be heard, and bring about plans for us you have promised, in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Holy God: remind us of the promises given in our own baptism, and renew our trust in you. Make us strong to obey your will, and to serve you with joy; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Baptismal Blessing

* Baptism Hymn No. 498 – "Child of Blessing, Child of Promise" – (KINGDOM)`

Unison Prayer for Illumination (In unison) - Led by Nancy O'Brien

By your Spirit, O God, enlighten our hearts, open our minds, fill our vision with your radiance, and give us life, as we hear your Word today. Amen.

Old Testament Reading — Read by Nancy O'Brien

The Old Testament lectionary reading is Exodus, chapter 34, verses 29-35. Moses returns from Sinai with the Law, and his face is shining. Listen now for the Word of God to you!

Moses came down from Mount Sinai. As he came down from the mountain with the two covenant tablets in his hand, Moses didn't realize that the skin of his face shone brightly because he had been talking with God. When Aaron and all the Israelites saw the skin of Moses' face shining brightly, they were afraid to come near him. But Moses called them closer. So Aaron and all the leaders of the community came back to him, and Moses spoke with them. After that, all the Israelites came near as well, and Moses commanded them everything that the Lord had spoken with him on Mount Sinai. When Moses finished speaking with them, he put a veil over his face. Whenever Moses went into the Lord's presence to speak with him, Moses would take the veil off until he came out again. When Moses came out and told the Israelites what he had been commanded, the Israelites would see that the skin of Moses' face was shining brightly. So Moses would put the veil on his face again until the next time he went in to speak with the Lord.

This is the Word of the Lord! Thanks be to God!

New Testament Reading – Read by Nancy O'Brien

Our second reading from the lectionary is Second Corinthians, chapter 3, verses 12 through chapter 4, verses 2. With unveiled faces, we see the lory of the Lord reflected. Listen now for the Word of God to you!

So, since we have such a hope, we act with great confidence. We aren't like Moses, who used to put a veil over his face so that the Israelites couldn't watch the end of what was fading away. But their minds were closed. Right up to the present day the same veil remains when the old covenant is read. The veil is not removed because it is taken away by Christ. Even today, whenever Moses is read, a veil lies over their hearts. But whenever someone turns back to the Lord, the veil is removed. The Lord is the Spirit, and where the Lord's Spirit is, there is freedom. All of us are looking with unveiled faces at the glory of the Lord as if we were looking in a mirror. We are being transformed into that same image from one degree of glory to the next degree of glory. This comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit.

This is why we don't get discouraged, given that we received this ministry in the same way that we received God's mercy. Instead, we reject secrecy and shameful actions. We don't use deception, and we don't tamper with God's word. Instead, we commend ourselves to everyone's conscience in the sight of God by the public announcement of the truth.

This is the Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

New Testament Gospel Reading – Read by Pastor Peter

The gospel reading from the lectionary is Luke, chapter 9, verses 28-36 (37-43a). On a mountaintop, Jesus is transfigured; God says: This is my Son. Listen now for the Word of God to you!

About eight days after Jesus said these things, he took Peter, John, and James, and went up on a mountain to pray. As he was praying, the appearance of his face changed and his clothes flashed white like lightning. Two men, Moses and Elijah, were talking with him. They were clothed with heavenly splendor and spoke about Jesus' departure, which he would achieve in Jerusalem. Peter and those with him were almost overcome by sleep, but they managed to stay awake and saw his glory as well as the two men with him.

As the two men were about to leave Jesus, Peter said to him, "Master, it's good that we're here. We should construct three shrines: one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah"—but he didn't know what he was saying. Peter was still speaking when a cloud overshadowed them. As they entered the cloud, they were overcome with awe.

Then a voice from the cloud said, "This is my Son, my chosen one. Listen to him!" Even as the voice spoke, Jesus was found alone. They were speechless and at the time told no one what they had seen.

(The next day, when Jesus, Peter, John, and James had come down from the mountain, a large crowd met Jesus. A man from the crowd shouted, "Teacher, I beg you to take a look at my son, my only child. Look, a spirit seizes him and, without any warning, he screams. It shakes him and causes him to foam at the mouth. It tortures him and rarely leaves him alone. I begged your disciples to throw it out, but they couldn't."

Jesus answered, "You faithless and crooked generation, how long will I be with you and put up with you? Bring your son here." While he was coming, the demon threw him down and shook him violently. Jesus spoke harshly to the unclean spirit, healed the child, and gave him back to his father. Everyone was overwhelmed by God's greatness.

While everyone was marveling at everything he was doing, Jesus said to his disciples,

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

"God Is Greatness!"

Pastor Peter

* Hymn 315 – "Every Time I Feel the Spirit" – (African-American spiritual)

Sharing Joys and Concerns – Pastor Peter

Prayers of Thanksgiving and intercession & The Lord's Prayer (using 'debts' and 'debtors') – Pastor Peter

Invitation to the Offering – Pastor Peter

(Our hearts are open, and our ministries are continuing seven days a week. Your contribution or pledge payment sustains our presence as the church to the community—both local and global. Please place your offering in the collection plate at the back of the sanctuary, give online, or mail your offering envelope to the church office.)

Offertory – "Children of the Heavenly Father" – Jeremy S. Bakken Sanctuary Choir

Children of the heavenly Father safely in his bosom gather; nestling bird nor star in heaven such a refuge e'er was given.

God his own shall tend and nourish; in his holy courts they flourish. From all evil things he spares them; in his mighty arms he bears them.

Neither life nor death shall ever from the Lord his children sever; unto them his grace he showeth, and their sorrows all he knoweth.

Though he giveth or he taketh, God his children ne'er forsaketh; his the loving purpose soley to preserve them pure and holy.

* Doxology No 592 – "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow" (DOXOLOGY)

* Prayer of Dedication of Time, Gifts and Tithes – Led by Nancy O'Brien Holy are you, O Lord! We praise your great and awesome name. Use us, and these our gifts, in your service, to establish justice, righteousness, and equity, all for the good of your people and the glory of your eternal realm. Amen.

* Hymn 75 – "O Wondrous Sight, O Vision Fair" – (DEO GRACIAS)

- * Charge and Benediction (Read responsively) Pastor Peter Go from this place as those who are blessed. We will live in God's love.
 - Go from this place as trees planted beside living waters. We will drink of Christ's mercy.
 - Go from this place to bear the fruit of righteousness. We will share the Spirit's strength with everyone we meet.

Chimes – (You may sit in silent, reflective prayer as the worship leaders recess.)

Postlude – Fanfare on Agincourt Hymn — Charles Callahan (Hymn tune: Deo Gracias)

Announcements

Guests: You Are Welcome Here

WE CORDIALLY WELCOME THOSE WHO ARE VISITING TODAY. We are grateful for your presence and invite you to participate in our worship, mission and programs; we are happy to share our ministry with you. We'd like to get to know you. Please introduce yourself to a person nearby and be sure to join us downstairs in Carmel Hall for refreshments and conversation after worship! We hope your worship experience is meaningful and you will gather with us again soon. Sign our guest book at the sanctuary entrance (or share your email/contact information in the offering plate for a weekly email of future worship and activities). We invite you to speak with a Pastor if you are interested in membership. A Virtual Fellowship Time is also possible on Zoom. And, restrooms are located down the long hallway just past the Church Office in the Education Building. Welcome!

WE WELCOME JACK ROBERT MAHON TO THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST – Jack Robert Mahon was born on August 19, 2019 to parents Rebecca Susan Lohoefer-Mahon and Jeffrey Michael Mahon. Jack's aunt Julia and uncle Kevin Kozak will be his sponsors and will join in celebrating with Jack today. Jack is named after his great-grandfathers, Jack Badger and John "Jack" Mahon; and, after his grandfathers, Robert Lohoefer and Robert Mahon. For Jack, and all of us, today marks the beginning of something strange and new and wonderful. On this Transfiguration of the Lord Sunday God's Spirit continues to nurture the church with the promise of new life for all of us! All of us at CPC welcome this newest member of the church of Jesus Christ to our church family. Welcome. Jack!

THE FLOWERS IN OUR SANCTUARY this morning are lovingly dedicated to Jack Robert Mahon, son of Rebecca and Jeff Mahon, as we celebrate his baptism today, from Nancy O'Brien.

YOUR LENTEN DEVOTIONAL IS AVAILABLE THIS SUNDAY – Lenten devotionals: Family devotional bags, "Reflections on the Heart," with a Lenten calendar and family activities, and a separate Adult devotional guide, "Full to the Brim," are available on the table in the Narthex. Pick up one or both to use at home during Lent, beginning Ash Wednesday, March 2. Provided by the Christian Education Committee.

ASH WEDNESDAY – REPENT, RENEW, REFLECT, RETURN – Receive ashes and begin your Lenten journey on Wednesday, March 2nd at 12:15 pm in the Sanctuary for a day-time Ash Wednesday service. Come on your lunch hour or join us through live-stream on YouTube.

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP IN CARMEL HALL RESUMES THIS SUNDAY – Session approved the return of **Coffee Hour Fellowship** after Sunday worship downstairs in Carmel Hall. Join us for coffee/tea, baked goods, and good conversation with fellow members and friends.

ZOOM ADULT STUDY WEDNESDAYS DURING LENT: PRACTICE SPIRITUAL DISCIPLINES! – Participate in a special Lenten six-week adult group zoom study *Practice Spiritual Disciplines*. Our first gathering is this Wednesday, March 2 on ZOOM from 7:30-9:00 pm. Make the Season of Lent more meaningful; prepare for **Holy Week** and Easter's new life! God's central invitation to followers of Jesus is to draw near to God in Christ and to allow God, through the Holy Spirit, to transform us into Christ's image. **Christian spiritual disciplines and spiritual practices** are ways in which we do that. Spiritual disciplines are usually thought of as those things that help us draw near to God and might include different forms of prayer, meditation, study, and service. Spiritual practices are seen as those things Jesus did, said, or embodied; we as Jesus' followers try to do so as well. Many of the spiritual disciplines covered in this unit have emerged over the centuries as Christians have experimented with ways to make space in their lives to be with Jesus and to allow Jesus to transform them. Pick up *Practice Spiritual Disciplines: An Adult Reflection Booklet* available now in the narthex and in the Church Office.

CARMEL IS HAPPY TO PROVIDE FOR THE YOUNG MEMBERS of our congregation by offering **Nursery Care and Children's Worship** (third grade and below) during the Sunday 10:00 am worship service. They are being led by two of our committed and dedicated volunteers, Marleen Heintz for **Nursery Care** and Melissa MacFarland for **Children's Worship**. At this time, we request that if you desire nursery care for your child during Sunday worship, *please call the Church Office by Friday noon*, so that the nursery is staffed. **Children's Worship** will meet in Carmel Hall for larger spacing and does not require reserving ahead. Children from Grades K-3 leave the Sanctuary after the **Children's Message** (or after the Baptism when scheduled). We welcome our young families, either in person or in virtual worship. Any questions may be addressed to Janet Simon, Christian Education Committee chair; Marleen or Melissa. **CARMEL YOUTH GROUPS OASIS AND REFUGE & CONFIRMATION CLASS NOTES: Refuge** will meet on designated Wednesday nights, 6:30-7:30 pm, in person, in Carmel Hall and welcomes all in grades 3-8. Safety protocols will be followed with dinner and a rotating activity each week: service or craft project, Bible lesson, gym or game room activity and monthly special activities. **Oasis** meets designated Sundays, 7:00 pm in the Loft and welcomes all in grades 9-12. Join in the Fellowship and, as always, friends are welcome. The **Confirmation Group** meets Sundays at 9:00 am in the Chapel.

WONDER "WHAT'S GOING ON?" CHECK OUT CARMEL'S WEBSITE! Explore the wealth of information at <u>www.presbycarmel.org</u>. Easily find links for the current livestream worship, past services, the daily lectionary, or to send a prayer request or make a financial donation—and not to miss the latest on the Carmel Calendar. Clicking on the upper circular church photo will always bring you back to the Home Page.

JOIN US EACH SUNDAY IN WORSHIP; CELEBRATE COMMUNION THE FIRST SUNDAY OF EACH MONTH! Live Streaming Worship continues on YouTube, via Zoom on the phone and on Zoom for virtual fellowship following worship for those unable to attend in-person worship due to health comfort levels or travel situations.

CHILDREN'S WORSHIP SUPPLIES, HEARING DEVICES, LARGE PRINT BIBLES and **ORDERS OF SERVICE** are available from the Ushers.

SIGN-UP TO HELP WITH WORSHIP – EACH SUNDAY WE HAVE several spots you can assist. We are not all we can be without you sharing your gifts as a volunteer! Speak with a pastor or sign-up on-line here: https://m.signupgenius.com/#!/showSignUp/904094ca8a62aa6f49-worship

WORSHIPING IN THE TIME OF COVID-19 – All are requested to wear masks at all times and practice social distancing at your and other's comfort levels when inside church facilities.

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Participating in Worship this Morning (and clergy) Peter Sulyok, Transitional Senior Pastor James D. Eby, Pastor Emeritus Abigail Vander Hart Palmisano, Organist and Director of Music Nancy O'Brien, Liturgist The Sanctuary Choir Heather Coelho, Co-Director of the Handbell Choir and flutist Lynne Schutt, accompanist Denise Abraham, Greeter/Ushers Beth Cherry and Kirstin Waldner, Shepherds Walt Newman, Chancel Preparation and Emergency Procedure (CPEP) Member Gary Moll, Stefanie O'Gara, Jay Raulinaitis, and Kerri Strike-Stahller, Live-Streaming Operators Dave Rice, Hosting Coffee & Fellowship

Welcome to Sunday Morning Worship (Also, live streamed at 10:00 am)

YouTube (Carmel Presbyterian Church Glenside) at <u>https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC2KnjuJryWjVkrJljIDvsRw</u> **Those without Internet access may phone in via the Zoom phone link:** <u>https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8428511409</u> and Meeting ID: 842 851 1409 **"Virtual Fellowship Time" may be accessed on Zoom only after the service ends.**

Signup to Help with Worship!

Each Sunday we have several spots you can assist. Click here: https://m.signupgenius.com/#!/showSignUp/904094ca8a62aa6f49-worship

For those Participating and Facilitating in Worship

By attending in-person worship at Carmel Presbyterian Church you acknowledge the contagious nature of COVID-19 and variants and voluntarily assume the risk that you and your family may be exposed to or infected by COVID-19. You also acknowledge that the risk of becoming exposed to or infected by COVID-19 and its variants may result from the actions, omissions, or negligence of yourself and/or others, including, but not limited to, church employees, contractors, volunteers, members, and participants and their families. You agree to assume all the foregoing risks, waive liability against Carmel Presbyterian Church and church employees, contractors, volunteers, members, and participants and their families, and accept sole responsibility for any illness, injury, disability, or death to you or your family, including all claims that may arise resulting from any of these.

Carmel Presbyterian Church 100 Edge Hill Road Glenside, PA 19038 215-887-1074 www.presbycarmel.org

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

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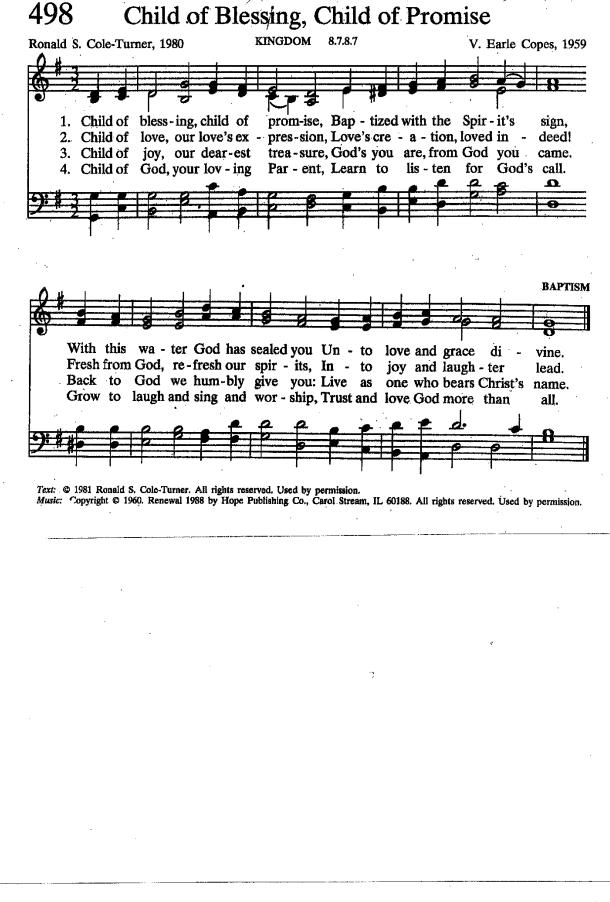
SERVICE MUSIC

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Every Time I Feel the Spirit

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PENTECOST Irregular





SERVICE MUSIC



* Or "God."

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O Wondrous Sight, O Vision Fair

DEO GRACIAS LM

