

# St. James United Church

330 Elizabeth Avenue  
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February 10, 2013

A Community of Friends in Faith



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U.C. of Canada: [www.united-church.ca](http://www.united-church.ca)

**We have Scent-Sensitive Concerns**

# St. James United Church

February 10, 2013, 11 a.m.

Transfiguration Sunday

Minister:	Rev. Bill Bartlett
Minister of Visitation:	Rev. Pamela Jones-Fitzgerald
C.E. Lay Minister:	Susan Sheppard
Organist/Choir Director:	Philip Roberts
Assistant Organist:	Gillian Burry
Choir:	Senior Choir

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## Organ Prelude

Welcome

Introit

### Call to Worship: (responsive)

(L) From a cloud, and in a crowd, God speaks to us.

**(P) Calling us to be lovers of justice, to share hope with the broken.**

(L) On mountaintops, and in neighbourhoods, Christ calls to us.

**(P) With a word, and with wonder, moulding us into who we are.**

(L) On the playground, and the workstation, the Spirit whispers in our hearts,

**(P) Gathering up our fears, as well as our dreams, and offering them to God.**

(L) Come, let us worship God.

### Opening Prayer: (responsive)

(L) Holy and majestic God on mountaintops crowned with mist and in museums filled with wonder; in tents pitched by singing brooks and in theatres filled with laughing children; in this sacred space and in the ordinary neighbourhoods where we live;

**(P) You are with us, hearing us, and we do not lose heart.**

(L) Holy Beloved, grace surrounds us; we look at you conversing with the poor and rejected, and see our family;

**(P) You come to us to meet our needs, and we do not lose heart.**

(L) Holy Spirit, when our lips cannot shape words, you speak them for us;

**(P) When our hopes are dashed to the ground, you pick them up, dust them off and give them back to us, and we do not lose heart.**

(L) God in community, be with us;

**(P) In these moments, as in every moment, we do not lose heart, for you are with us. Amen.**

**Hymn:** Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty

315

### Time with the children:

**Hymn:** For the Beauty of the Earth

226

**Offertory Invitation:** (unison)

Where we see scarcity, you see abundance, O God. Where we see limits, you see possibility. Where we see endings, you see beginnings. Where we doubt, you bring hope. Open our hearts, Gracious God, to know gratitude for your abundance in our lives, and to share hope and abundance with others, as we offer the gift of ourselves and the work of our hands.

**Offering:**

**Offertory Hymn:** Spirit of Life

381

**Offertory Prayer:** (unison)

God has invited us to this place, so as we offer our gifts may our faces reflect our hopes, our hearts reflect our love, and our lives reflect the calling we have received as God's people. Amen.

**THE WORD OF GOD**

**Hebrew Scripture:** Exodus 34: 29-35

*Moses is radiant as he comes down the mountain*

**Responsive Psalm:** Psalm 99

819

*God rules and delights in justice*

**Anthem:**

**Gospel:** Luke 9: 28-36

*Jesus is transfigured upon the mountain*

**Hymn:** How Good, Lord, to Be Here

103

**Meditation:**

**Prayer of Confession:** (unison)

(L) Sometimes we wait for God to astound us with whirlwinds of wonder, while God silently offers us grace. God waits to forgive us, so let us hold nothing back, but place our trust in the One who listens to our prayers and answers us with mercy. Join me as we pray saying...

**(P) We admit that we are often afraid to come near you, Glorious Creator, for if we do, you might see our faces distorted with anger as we speak hurtful words, or grow ashen with fear of those who are different, or flush from the depths of our desires. We can spend so much time concerned with ourselves that we are closed to the faces etched with loneliness, hollowed out by hunger, overshadowed by hopelessness.**

(L) You reveal the mystery of your grace, Holy One, by pouring out your mercy upon us. As you come close to listen, may we speak your love to all around us. As you call us into your presence, you send us out to do your justice, which brings hope to the world. This we pray in the name of Jesus the Christ, who is our love and justice. Amen.

**Words of Assurance:**

(L) On mountaintops and in valleys, in our hopes, and in our hearts, God knows us better than we know ourselves, and God forgives us when we cannot forgive ourselves.

**(P) By God's mercy, we are forgiven; by God's mercy, we are made whole; by God's mercy, we are equipped to serve others. Thanks be to God. Amen.**

**Communion Hymn:**

Here, O My Lord, I See You Face to Face

459 vs 1-3

Sacrament of Holy Communion

**The Great Thanksgiving**

**Sanctus and Benedictus** (sung)

Holy, holy, holy Lord,  
God of power and might;  
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest!  
Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.



**Lord's Prayer**

**Statement of Faith:** We Are Not Alone

918

**Institution Narrative**

**Distribution of the Elements**

Communion today is being served by the Senior Choir

**Post Communion Prayer** (unison)

For the bread we have eaten, for the juice we have tasted, for the life we have received, we thank you, God. Grant that what we have done and have been given here may so put its mark upon us that it may remain always in our hearts. Grant that we may become mature Christians, that ours may be a faith which issues into action; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

**Communion Hymn:**

Here, O My Lord, I See You Face to Face

459 vs 4&5

**Commissioning:**

(L) Go now with God,

**(P) Who covers us with tender mercies.**

(L) Go now with Christ our friend,

**(P) Who is our good companion, who gives us good food and living water to sustain us.**

(L) Go knowing that God will direct our path,

**(P) Bringing us joy and delight as we continue our journey of faith.**

**Organ Postlude:**

Resources for worship service taken from *Gathering 2012-13* and *Season of the Spirit, 2012-2013*.

**Ushers:**

Jack and Florence Head

Melvin and Betty Burt

Cec and Audrey Templeman

Jim Inder

Oliver Wellon

Linda Babstock