

FEBRUARY 11, 2018
TRANSFIGURATION
SUNDAY



Listen to Jesus, God's beloved Son.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

These passages are related to the Lectionary texts for this Sunday.

Sunday	Mark 9:2-9	The transfiguration of Jesus
Monday	2 Kings 2:1-12	Elijah is taken into heaven
Tuesday	2 Corinthians 4:3-6	Proclaiming Jesus as Lord
Wednesday	Matthew 6:1-21	The practice of faith
Thursday	Proverbs 8:32-35	Listen to God
Friday	Joel 2:1-2, 12-17	Return to the Lord your God
Saturday	Psalms 50:1-6	God shines brightly
Sunday	Mark 1:9-15	Temptation of Jesus

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

Then a cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud there came a voice, "This is my Son, the Beloved; listen to him!" **Mark 9:7 (NRSV)**

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week:

Jesus, Son of God, open our ears and our hearts so that we listen to you. Amen. (Mark 9:7)

Mealtime Prayer:

For every cup and every plateful, to you, O God, we are grateful. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May the Lord who makes light shine out of darkness, shine in your hearts. (2 Corinthians 4:6)



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HYMN OF THE WEEK

*We Are Marching
in the Light of God*



CARING CONVERSATIONS

Discuss in your home or small group:

- What is the tallest hill or mountain you have climbed? What did you see from the top?
- In Mark 9 Jesus led Peter, James, and John up a mountain where they witnessed Jesus' clothes becoming dazzling white and saw him speaking with Elijah and Moses. Why do you think Jesus wanted them to experience that?
- Where and when have you or someone you know had a special experience of God's presence? How has that helped you or them listen to and follow God?

DEVOTIONS

Read: Mark 9:2-9.

The season of Epiphany ends with the moment of glory on the Mount of Transfiguration. Peter, James, and John see Jesus in shining splendor alongside Moses (the Law) and Elijah (the Prophets), reflecting the faith of the Old Testament. The disciples will descend the mountain and make their journey to Jerusalem and the cross of Christ. Reflect on how seeing Jesus in glory and listening to him is a vision that will encourage us as we journey to the cross this Lent. (Lent begins with Ash Wednesday on February 14). Finish this sentence: "I listen to Jesus by . . ." Close by praying the following:

Pray: **Dear God, we thank you for giving us a glimpse of heavenly glory as we continue our journey of faith on earth. Guide us into Lent and on to Easter as we listen to you and learn of the work of Christ that brings salvation to all that you have created. Amen.**

SERVICE

Lent focuses on the disciplines of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving as discussed in Matthew 6:1-21. Make this week "Secret Service Week" in your home or with friends. Put your names in a bowl and have each person draw out someone else's name. During the week, perform a secret act of service for that person. Share your ideas about secret acts of service that could be carried out for one another.

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

The church season of Lent begins this week on Ash Wednesday. There are 40 days in the season of Lent, a time to refocus our lives on God. One important spiritual practice that Christians emphasize during Lent is prayer. Make this Lent a time of prayer for others. Use separate pieces of paper, and on each one write the name of a person you can pray for during Lent. Place these papers into a prayer box. Each day in Lent, pull out a slip of paper from the prayer box and ask God to care for and bless the person named. Throughout the season of Lent, feel free to add other names and place them on slips of paper in the prayer box.



In addition to *Taking Faith Home*, celebrate milestones in your daily life as an effective faith formation tool. Go to: www.milestonesministry.org