

**University UMC – Order of Worship**  
**February 11<sup>th</sup>, 2024**  
**Transfiguration Sunday**

**Centering Words:**

The mighty one speaks and summons  
the earth from the rising of the sun of its setting.  
God calls to the heavens and to the earth,  
“Gather to me my faithful ones.”

**Prelude:**

- Jilsca Oppier

**(\*) Gathering Songs:**

- Tony & Wanda Woolery

**“I’ll Fly Away” (TFWS 2282)**

Some glad morning when this life is o’er,  
I’ll (fly away) fly away (fly away);  
to a home on God’s celestial shore,  
I’ll (fly away) fly away (fly away).

Refrain:

I’ll (fly away) fly away,  
O glory, I’ll (fly away) fly away (in the morning).  
When I die, hallelujah, by and by,  
I’ll (fly away) fly away (fly away).

When the shadows of this life have gone,  
I’ll (fly away) fly away (fly away);  
Like a bird from prison bars has flown,  
I’ll (fly away) fly away (fly away).

Refrain

Just a few more weary days and then,  
I’ll (fly away) fly away (fly away);  
To a land where joys shall never end,  
I’ll (fly away) fly away (fly away).

Refrain

**“Step by Step” (W&S 3004)**

O God, you are my God,  
and I will ever praise you.  
O God, you are my God,  
and I will ever praise you.  
I will seek you in the morning,  
and I will learn to walk in your ways;  
And step by step you'll lead me,  
and I will follow you all of my days.

**“Glorify You”**

We stand in awe of your presence  
And we seek your Holiness  
For your love it is eternal  
Living waters flow from you  
Father in Heaven, we come to worship you  
Holy Spirit, teaching us to walk in you  
Jesus sweet savior, we want to glorify you

**Gathering & Recognition of Guests:**

- Stephanie Denham

**(\*) Call to Worship:**

- Stephanie Denham

As we live and as God lives,  
**God will not leave us.**  
When fire devours and storms blow us astray,  
**God will not leave us.**  
When truth is veiled and confusion reigns,  
**God will not leave us.**  
When the world changes around us,  
**God will not leave us.**  
When we long to speak but find no words,  
**God will not leave us.**  
When all around us is silent,  
**God will not leave us.**  
When faithfulness feels beyond us,  
**God will not leave us.**  
As we live and as God lives,  
**We worship the One who will not leave us.**

**(\*) Opening Hymn: “Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies”**

**(UMH 173)**

- Leslie Kowalski

Christ, whose glory fills the skies,  
Christ, the true, the only light,  
Sun of Righteousness, arise,  
triumph o’er the shades of night;  
Dayspring from on high, be near;  
Daystar, in my heart appear.

Dark and cheerless is the morn  
unaccompanied by thee;  
joyless is the day’s return,  
till thy mercy’s beams I see;  
till they inward light impart,  
cheer my eyes and warm my heart.

Visit then this soul of mine;  
pierce the gloom of sin and grief;  
fill me, Radiancy divine,  
scatter all my unbelief;  
more and more thyself display,  
shining to the perfect day.

**(\*) Opening Prayer:**

**Holy One, when the world is full of confusion and your message is hard to perceive, still, we can see you. Still, your presence shines—a light to illuminate the shadows. When we cannot find a way to speak your story, let your being shine in us and through us, that we may reflect your glory, and your grace.**

**Amen.**

**Children’s Message** (*if children are present*)

**Prayer Hymn: “Holy Ground” (TFWS 2272)**

- Leslie Kowalski

We are standing on holy ground,  
and I know that there are angels all around;  
Let us praise Jesus now;  
we are standing in his presence on holy ground.

**Community Prayer**

- Rev. Rubén Esponda

**Pastoral Prayer**

**Lord’s Prayer in Unison**

**Choral Anthem: “Swiftly Pass the Clouds of Glory”**

**(\*) Scripture: Mark 9:2-9 (NRSVUE)**

- Stephanie Denham

<sup>2</sup> 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, <sup>3</sup> and his clothes became dazzling bright, such as no one on earth could brighten them.

<sup>4</sup> And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses, who were talking with Jesus. <sup>5</sup> 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.” <sup>6</sup> He did not know what to say, for they were terrified.

<sup>7</sup> Then a cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud there came a voice, “This is my Son, the Beloved; listen to him!”

<sup>8</sup> Suddenly when they looked around, they saw no one with them anymore, but only Jesus.

<sup>9</sup> 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.

The Word of God for the people of God

**Thanks be to God. Amen.**

**Sermon: “Until After He Has Risen”**

- Rev. Rubén Esponda

**Invitation to the Offering**

- Stephanie Denham

As God has given us such a great share of blessings, let us share our gifts with God’s people.

**Offering**

**(\*) Doxology: “Great is the Lord” (TFWS 2022)**

- Leslie Kowalski

Great is the Lord, he is holy and just;  
by his power we trust in his love.  
Great is the Lord, he is faithful and true;  
by his mercy he proves he is love.

**Offering Prayer**

- Stephanie Denham

**Gracious God, you have given us a double share of your Spirit ... and even more ... more than we could ask for or ever repay. You have blessed us with your love and filled our lives with your grace. Take now this offering of our hearts and our lives, that they may be instruments of your love and your mercy, your justice and your grace. Amen.**

**Announcements:**

- Stephanie Denham

**Prayer Breakfast:** Please join us every Friday for our Prayer Breakfast at 7:00 am in the Fellowship Hall! Join us for breakfast as we join in prayer! As they say, "A praying church is a powerful church".

**Ash Wednesday:** Join us for a meaningful Ash Wednesday service on **February 14, 2024, at 7 PM**. This service marks the beginning of the Lenten season, a time for reflection and renewal of faith. It's a special opportunity to come together in prayer and contemplation as we prepare for the journey towards Easter. We look forward to welcoming you for this solemn observance.

**Lenten Bible Study:** Embark on a spiritual journey this Lenten season with our weekly Bible Study starting **Thursday, February 15, and continuing every Thursday until March 21, 2024, from 6:30 PM to 8 PM**. Each evening begins with a heartwarming soup dinner at 6:30 PM, followed by an engaging study session from 7 PM to 8 PM, centered on "*Embracing the Uncertain*." Materials are available for a small price of \$10 in the church office. Join us for these enriching sessions as we explore faith together and grow closer in our community. See you there!

**(\*) Closing Hymn: "Come, Let us with Our Lord Arise"**

**(TFWS 2084)**

- Leslie Kowalski

Come, let us with our Lord arise,  
our Lord, who made both earth and skies;  
who died to save the world he made,  
and rose triumphant from the dead;  
he rose, the Prince of life and peace,  
and stamped the day forever his.

This is the day the Lord has made,  
that all may see his love displayed,  
may feel his resurrection's power,  
and rise again, to fall no more,  
in perfect righteousness renewed,  
and filled with all the life of God.

Then let us render him his own,  
with solemn prayer approach his throne,  
with meekness hear the gospel word,  
with thanks his dying love record,  
our joyful hearts and voices raise,  
and fill his courts with songs of praise.

(\*) **Benediction**

- Rev. Rubén Esponda

People of God,  
God has shined life into you.  
You have seen it.  
Now go and let your lives shine.

**Amen.**

**Postlude**

- Jilsca Oppier