



Looking for the Light, Listening for the Call
Transfiguration Sunday
February 14, 2021

Prelude

My Shepherd Will Supply My Need, Martha Main

We are Called to Worship - The light of God is shining . . . shining around and within. The voice of God is calling . . . calling not just from ancient texts, but from here and now. The love of God is with us . . . flowing around and within us.~

Gathering Prayer - O Holy One, on mountaintops and valley floors you reveal to us the light of your love. Our hearts desire is to bask in the amazing glory of the divine presence. With each encounter we are changed and transformed. Draw us nearer that we might receive a double portion of your Holy Spirit. Help us, O Holy One, to live our lives as a reflection of divine glory. May we walk among our siblings and friends as a blessing, bearing light into dark places, hope to displace despair, and love that casts out hate. Our world is hurting and we need the followers of Jesus to follow more closely. Maybe then we will hear your voice speaking to us and saying, . . . "listen to my Child, the Beloved!" Amen.+

Song 1

In the Midst of New Dimensions, YouTube

Sharing Our Joys and Concerns

A Time of Prayer: *You are welcome to send prayer requests to Pastor Sarah. Spend a few moments connecting with God and lifting up your prayers.*

The Lord's Prayer (unison)

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come,

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thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

We Hear God's Word

Amos 5:6-24 (NRSV)

⁶ Seek the LORD and live,
or he will break out against the house
of Joseph like fire,
and it will devour Bethel, with no one
to quench it.
⁷ Ah, you that turn justice to wormwood,
and bring righteousness to the ground!

⁸ The one who made the Pleiades
and Orion,
and turns deep darkness into
the morning,
and darkens the day into night,
who calls for the waters of the sea,
and pours them out on the surface of
the earth,
the LORD is his name,
⁹ who makes destruction flash out
against the strong,
so that destruction comes upon the
fortress.

¹⁰ They hate the one who reproves in the
gate,
and they abhor the one who speaks the
truth.

¹¹ Therefore, because you trample on the
poor
and take from them levies of grain,
you have built houses of hewn stone,
but you shall not live in them;
you have planted pleasant vineyards,

but you shall not drink their wine.
¹² For I know how many are your
transgressions,
and how great are your sins—
you who afflict the righteous, who take a
bribe,
and push aside the needy in the gate.
¹³ Therefore the prudent will keep silent
in such a time;
for it is an evil time.

¹⁴ Seek good and not evil,
that you may live;
and so the LORD, the God of hosts, will
be with you,
just as you have said.

¹⁵ Hate evil and love good,
and establish justice in the gate;
it may be that the LORD, the God
of hosts,
will be gracious to the remnant of
Joseph.

¹⁶ Therefore thus says the LORD, the God
of hosts, the Lord:
In all the squares there shall be wailing;
and in all the streets they shall say,
'Alas! alas!'

They shall call the farmers to mourning,
and those skilled in lamentation, to
wailing;

¹⁷ in all the vineyards there shall

be wailing,
for I will pass through the midst of
you, says the LORD.

¹⁸ Alas for you who desire the day of
the LORD!

Why do you want the day of
the LORD?

It is darkness, not light;

¹⁹ as if someone fled from a lion,
and was met by a bear;
or went into the house and rested a hand
against the wall,
and was bitten by a snake.

²⁰ Is not the day of the LORD darkness,
not light,
and gloom with no brightness in it?

²¹ I hate, I despise your festivals,
and I take no delight in your solemn
assemblies.

²² Even though you offer me your burnt-
offerings and grain-offerings,

I will not accept them;
and the offerings of well-being of your
fatted animals

I will not look upon.

²³ Take away from me the noise of your
songs;

I will not listen to the melody of your
harps.

²⁴ But let justice roll down like waters,
and righteousness like an ever-flowing
stream.

Song 2

In Christ There is No East or West, YouTube

Meditation

Andrew Larson, Mission-Coworker from *Global Ministries*

We Respond to God's Word with Our Giving

Invitation – In a world of shadows and clouds, we are invited to proclaim the light of Christ. May light guide our thoughts and help us know how to give of ourselves and our gifts so that we may become lights in a shadowy world.~

February Benevolence – Our February Benevolence Offering will go to support Our Church's Wider Mission, one of the five offerings of the United Church of Christ. A significant portion of your donations will stay right here in our Indiana-Kentucky Conference to support to work and ministry of our wider church family. By covenantal partnership we have committed ourselves to support these joint ministry efforts, and by working together as many different congregations united by one mission, we can make an even greater impact on the world.

You can mail your offerings to our office. We check the mail regularly.
Zion United Church of Christ
8916 E. Troy Ave.

Indianapolis, IN 46239

Or, you can donate through our website through our secure PayPal button at www.zionuccindy.net/donate. Please know that PayPal receives a 2.2% processing fee and a \$0.30 transaction charge. You are able to set up reoccurring, monthly payments.

We Give Thanks – God of light and love, shine through the gifts we bring before you now. Speak through our hearts and our actions. Bless our gifts, our offerings, and our very lives, that we may bless others with your presence. Amen.~

Song 3

We All Are One in Mission, YouTube

We Are Sent Forth with a Blessing - May the brightness of God light our way. May the brightness of Christ shine within us. May the brightness of God's Spirit flow through us.~

Postlude

This Is My Father's World, Martha Main