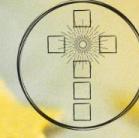


# EPIPHANY 2024

## Follow Your Star: Seeking Light



*Serve & Enrich*  
Zion United Church  
of Christ

*Transfiguration Sunday*

### **Prelude**

*Jesus, the Very Thought of Thee*

**Gathering** *This gather is responsive. When I point to you, please respond with, "God will not leave us."*

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

***God will not leave us.***  
***God will not leave us.***  
***God will not leave us.***  
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***God will not leave us.***  
***God will not leave us.***

### **\*\*Gathering Song**

*How Great Thou Art, 51*

**A Time of 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.~

**The Lord's Prayer** (unison)—Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, 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.

### **Choir**

*Love Grows Here*

### **Exploring God's Word for All Ages**

*Star Word: Radiate*

## **We Hear God's Word—Mark 9:2-13**

*Collin Bennington*

2 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 white, such as no one on earth could bleach 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 make three dwellings, 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 any more, but only Jesus.

9 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.<sup>10</sup> So they kept the matter to themselves, questioning what this rising from the dead could mean.<sup>11</sup> Then they asked him, ‘Why do the scribes say that Elijah must come first?’<sup>12</sup> He said to them, ‘Elijah is indeed coming first to restore all things. How then is it written about the Son of Man, that he is to go through many sufferings and be treated with contempt?<sup>13</sup> But I tell you that Elijah has come, and they did to him whatever they pleased, as it is written about him.’

## **Meditation**

*Follow Your Star: Radiate*

## **Hymn**

*Awesome God, 658 (2x)*

## **We Respond to God's Word with Our Giving**

**Invitation**— God's gifts to creation and to us are abundant and ever-new. Entrusted with creation's care and with care for one another, we share our gifts out of our own abundance.+

## **February Benevolence—Our Church's Wider Mission**

### **\*\*Doxology**

**We Give Thanks**— Mighty God, you live, and you do not leave us. With these gifts, we do not leave each other, but use them in mutual support. Bless those who receive and benefit from these gifts. May they know your presence with them. With these gifts, our prayers rise up to you. Amen.+

**Hymn**

*All Hail the Power of Jesus Name, 106*

**A Blessing For Our Meal**—Our Pancake Breakfast will go to support the Zion UCC Emergency Assistance Fund so that we can shine the light of Christ and live God's love when our neighbors need us. Thank you to all our volunteers for preparing our meal!

**Benediction**—People of God, God has shined life into you. You have seen it. Now go and let your lives [radiate and] shine. Amen.

**Postlude**

*Let's Just Praise the Lord*

\*\*You're invited to stand if you are comfortably able and so called.\*\*

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