

**Federated Church of Sturbridge and Fiskdale
Transfiguration Sunday and Scout Sunday
Sunday, February 27, 2022**

PRELUDE

PRESENTATION OF THE COLORS

SPECIAL MUSIC

God Bless America

Words and Music: Irving Berlin

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*God bless America,
Land that I love,
Stand beside her, and guide her
Through the night with a light from above.*

*From the mountains, to the prairies,
To the oceans, white with foam
God bless America, My home sweet home
God bless America, My home sweet home.*

**WELCOME AND GATHERING PRAYER
ANNOUNCEMENTS**

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Great is the Lord!

All: Let all people praise God's great and awesome nature.

One: God is mighty; he loves justice and establishes equity.

All: Let all people exalt and worship the Lord.

One: Great is the Lord! God answered the prayers of Moses and Aaron.

*All: God spoke to them from the pillar of cloud and fire. He led His people
in the wilderness, forgiving all their sins.*

One: God is glorious over all the nations. Let us place ourselves before
God to hear.

*All: Lord, we place ourselves before you with ears to hear and hearts to
learn. Amen!*

OPENING HYMN

For the Healing of the Nations, #668

Words: Fred Kaan (1965)

Music: John Hughes (1907)

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*For the healing of the nations,
Lord, we pray with one accord;
for a just and equal sharing
of the things that earth affords;
to a life of love in action
help us rise and pledge our word,
help us rise and pledge our word.*

*Lead us forward into freedom;
from despair your world release,
that, redeemed from war and hatred,
all may come and go in peace.
Show us how through care and goodness
fear will die and hope increase,
fear will die and hope increase.*

*All that kills abundant living,
let it from the earth be banned;
pride of status, race, or schooling,
dogmas that obscure your plan.
In our common quest for justice
may we hallow life's brief span,
may we hallow life's brief span.*

*You, Creator God, have written
your great name on humankind;
for our growing in your likeness
bring the life of Christ to mind,
that by our response and service
earth its destiny may find,
earth its destiny may find.*

UNISON PRAYER

Holy God, You are beyond words and description. Your love is beyond knowledge and explanation. Yet, we see your glory in the lessons that Jesus left us. We seek to become transformed into the likeness of Jesus, Your Son, so that our lives will be renewed, and our relationships will be restored. Lord, guide us in all we do and say as we go forward into the world; in Jesus' name, we pray. Amen!

Our Lord's Prayer

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 trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil; For thine is the Kingdom and the Power and the Glory, forever, Amen.

GLORIA PATRI

Glory Be to the Father

WORDS: Lesser Doxology (3rd-4th centuries)

MUSIC: Henry W. Greatorex, 1851

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Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, Amen.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Shelli Fairbrother

CHILDREN'S HYMN

This Little Light of Mine

Words & Music: Harry Dixon Loes

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*This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine.
This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine.
This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine,
let it shine, let it shine, oh let it shine.*

SCRIPTURE READING

New Testament Lesson: 2 Corinthians 3:12–4:2

Gospel Lesson: Luke 9:28–36

SERMON

Chosen for Greater Things, Pastor Dave

HYMN

There's a Sweet, Sweet Spirit, #261

Words and Music: Doris Akers (1962)

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*There's a sweet, sweet Spirit in this place,
And I know that it's the Spirit of the Lord;
There are sweet expressions on each face,
And I know they feel the presence of the Lord.*

*Sweet Holy Spirit, Sweet heavenly Dove,
Stay right here with us, filling us with Your love.
And for these blessings we lift our hearts in praise;
Without a doubt we'll know that we have been revived,
When we shall leave this place.*

MORNING OFFERING

WE OFFER OURSELVES TO GOD

We joyfully offer ourselves in God's work using our time, talent, and treasure.

DOXOLOGY

Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow

WORDS: Thomas Ken, 1674

MUSIC: Louis Bourgeois, 1551

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*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow
Praise Him, all creatures here below
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

UNISON PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Lord, like Peter, James, and John, we crave to experience mountaintop encounters with You. We seek a transformation so that we will remain followers of Christ amongst the routines of our daily lives. Use us and these financial offerings, that all may be transformed by the goodness of our Lord, Christ Jesus. Amen!

WE PAUSE TO REFLECT AND PRAY

Prayers of the People: You are invited to offer prayers of concerns or joys.
Sharing our joys and concerns

Pastor: God is with you

All: And also, with you

Pastor: Let us pray

PASTORAL PRAYER

SUNG RESPONSE

Hear Our Prayer, O Lord

WORDS: Psalm 143:1

MUSIC: George Whelpton, 1897

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*Hear our Prayer, O Lord. Hear our prayer O Lord.
Incline thine ear to us, And grant us thy peace. Amen.*

CLOSING HYMN

Lord, I Want to Be a Christian, #589

Words: Afro-American spiritual

Music: Larry Sivis (1993)

Copyright: Harm. © 1995 Chalice Press

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*Lord, I want to be a Christian in-a my heart, in-a my heart;
Lord, I want to be a Christian in-a my heart.
In-a my heart, (in-a my heart,) in my heart, (in-a my heart,)
Lord, I want to be a Christian in-a my heart, (in-a my heart).*

*Lord, I want to be more loving in-a my heart, in-a my heart;
Lord, I want to be more loving in-a my heart.
In-a my heart, (in-a my heart,) in my heart, (in-a my heart,)
Lord, I want to be more loving in-a my heart, (in-a my heart).*

*Lord, I want to be like Jesus in-a my heart, in-a my heart;
Lord, I want to be like Jesus in-a my heart.
In-a my heart, (in-a my heart,) in my heart, (in-a my heart,)
Lord, I want to be like Jesus in-a my heart, (in-a my heart).*

BENEDICTION

BENEDICTION RESPONSE

Go in Peace, #445

Words: Barbara L. Waters

Music: Kenneth E. White

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*Go in peace and the peace of God be with you this day.
Go in peace and the peace of God be with you always.
Celebrate and share the joy! Celebrate new life!
Go in peace and the peace of God be with you always.*

RECESSIONAL POSTLUDE

2 Corinthians 3:12-4:2 (NRSV)

12 Since, then, we have such a hope, we act with great boldness, 13 not like Moses, who put a veil over his face to keep the people of Israel from gazing at the end of the glory that was being set aside. 14 But their minds were hardened. Indeed, to this very day, when they hear the reading of the old covenant, that same veil is still there, since only in Christ is it set aside. 15 Indeed, to this very day whenever Moses is read, a veil lies over their minds; 16 but when one turns to the Lord, the veil is removed. 17 Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. 18 And all of us, with unveiled faces, seeing the glory of the Lord as though reflected in a mirror, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another; for this comes from the Lord, the Spirit.

Treasure in Clay Jars

4 Therefore, since it is by God's mercy that we are engaged in this ministry, we do not lose heart. 2 We have renounced the shameful things that one hides; we refuse to practice cunning or to falsify God's word; but by the open statement of the truth we commend ourselves to the conscience of everyone in the sight of God.

Luke 9:28-36 (NRSV)

The Transfiguration

28 Now about eight days after these sayings Jesus took with him Peter and John and James, and went up on the mountain to pray. 29 And while he was praying, the appearance of his face changed, and his clothes became dazzling white. 30 Suddenly they saw two men, Moses and Elijah, talking to him. 31 They appeared in glory and were speaking of his departure, which he was about to accomplish at Jerusalem. 32 Now Peter and his companions were weighed down with sleep; but since they had stayed awake, they saw his glory and the two men who stood with him. 33 Just as they were leaving him, Peter said to Jesus, "Master, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah"—not knowing what he said. 34 While he was saying this, a cloud came and overshadowed them; and they were terrified as they entered the cloud. 35 Then from the cloud came a voice that said, "This is my Son, my Chosen; listen to him!" 36 When the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone. And they kept silent and in those days told no one any of the things they had seen.