

**The Presque Isle Congregational Church**  
*United Church of Christ*  
**February 19, 2023 - Transfiguration Sunday**

**Prelude**

Barbara Merryman

**Gathering Music**

*You Are Welcome Here*

**Words of Welcome**

Jennifer Gillis-White

**Introit**

*Spirit God, Be Our Breath*

**Call to Worship**

**One:** This is the day that God has made.

**Many:** Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

**One:** Come let us worship our God who meets us in the mountaintops of joy and the valleys of despair.

**Many:** For God is with us and we are never alone.

**Opening Prayer** (unison)

Radiant God, we come to you on the mountaintop to experience your glory. You come to us in the valleys. We meet you in gladness in a place where heaven and earth collide. May our worship of you encourage us on the journey and make us aspire to reflect your kingdom in the world. Transform us and keep us near to you. Amen.

**Opening Hymn**

*Come Let Us Sing to the Lord Our God*

**Prayer of Confession:** (unison)

Righteous God, we find ourselves wanting to retreat from the harsh realities of life. We can find ourselves lifted to high places and forget those we have left behind. Our concern for our neighbor too often dissipates at the point of our discomfort. Forgive us for wanting to dwell in your presence without being transformed with new energy for the work of your ministry. Amen.

**Assurance of Pardon**

**Two-Minute Message**

**Children's Hymn**

*I Can Feel You Near Me God (Jump for Joy)*

## Scripture Reading

Ginny Joles

### Exodus 24:12-18

NRSVUE

<sup>12</sup> The Lord said to Moses, "Come up to me on the mountain and wait there; I will give you the tablets of stone, with the law and the commandment, which I have written for their instruction." <sup>13</sup> So Moses set out with his assistant Joshua, and Moses went up onto the mountain of God. <sup>14</sup> To the elders he had said, "Wait here for us, until we come back to you. Look, Aaron and Hur are with you; whoever has a dispute may go to them."

<sup>15</sup> Then Moses went up on the mountain, and the cloud covered the mountain. <sup>16</sup> The glory of the Lord settled on Mount Sinai, and the cloud covered it for six days; on the seventh day he called to Moses out of the cloud. <sup>17</sup> Now the appearance of the glory of the Lord was like a devouring fire on the top of the mountain in the sight of the Israelites. <sup>18</sup> Moses entered the cloud and went up on the mountain. Moses was on the mountain for forty days and forty nights.

### Matthew 17:1-9

NRSVUE

#### The Transfiguration

<sup>17</sup> Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain, by themselves. <sup>2</sup> And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became bright as light. <sup>3</sup> Suddenly there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him. <sup>4</sup> Then Peter said to Jesus, "Lord, it is good for us to be here; if you wish, I[a] will set up three tents here, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." <sup>5</sup> While he was still speaking, suddenly a bright cloud overshadowed them, and a voice from the cloud said, "This is my Son, the Beloved; with him I am well pleased; listen to him!" <sup>6</sup> When the disciples heard this, they fell to the ground and were overcome by fear. <sup>7</sup> But Jesus came and touched them, saying, "Get up and do not be afraid." <sup>8</sup> And when they raised their eyes, they saw no one except Jesus himself alone.

<sup>9</sup> As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus ordered them, "Tell no one about the vision until after the Son of Man has been raised from the dead."

#### Choral Anthem

*Dona Nobis Pacem*

PIUCC Choir

#### Reflection

**Life Is Not Lived on the Mountain**

Dr. Susan MacAlpine-Gillis

#### Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

Our **Creator\***, 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

*\*Please use whatever name is most familiar/comfortable when you pray to God.*

#### Closing Hymn

*Bless Now, O God, the Journey*

#### Benediction

#### Postlude

Barbara Merryman