

# *Transfiguration Sunday*

An aerial photograph of a vast mountain range. The central focus is a large, jagged mountain peak covered in snow, with smaller peaks and ridges extending into the distance. The landscape is layered with soft, white clouds and a light blue haze, creating a sense of depth and atmosphere. The sky is a clear, pale blue.

**February 11, 2024, 10:30 a.m.**

**First United Methodist Church of Newton  
111 Ryerson Avenue, Newton NJ**

# Order of Worship

(\*Please rise in body or in spirit.)

PRELUDE

Christie Spriggs

GREETING

Rev. Todd R. Lattig

\*CALL TO WORSHIP (responsively)

Kathleen Meredith

As we live and as God lives,

**God will not leave us.**

When fires devour 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.**

\*HYMN “Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies”

UMH 173

\*OPENING PRAYER (unison)

Kathleen Meredith

**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.**

ANTHEM “Open My Eyes, That I May See”

Chancel Choir

COMMUNITY PRAYER

Rev. Lattig

CHORAL RESPONSE TO PRAYER

Chancel Choir

KIDS ROCK CHILDREN’S SERMON

Rev. Lattig

SCRIPTURE READING

Kathleen Meredith

## 2 Kings 2:1-12

2 When the LORD was about to take Elijah up to heaven in a whirlwind, Elijah and Elisha were traveling from Gilgal. <sup>2</sup> And Elijah said to Elisha, “Stay here, for the LORD has told me to go to Bethel.”

But Elisha replied, “As surely as the LORD lives and you yourself live, I will never leave you!” So they went down together to Bethel.

<sup>3</sup> The group of prophets from Bethel came to Elisha and asked him, “Did you know that the LORD is going to take your master away from you today?”

“Of course I know,” Elisha answered. “But be quiet about it.”

<sup>4</sup> Then Elijah said to Elisha, “Stay here, for the LORD has told me to go to Jericho.”

But Elisha replied again, “As surely as the LORD lives and you yourself live, I will never leave you.” So they went on together to Jericho.

<sup>5</sup> Then the group of prophets from Jericho came to Elisha and asked him, “Did you know that the LORD is going to take your master away from you today?”

“Of course I know,” Elisha answered. “But be quiet about it.”

<sup>6</sup> Then Elijah said to Elisha, “Stay here, for the LORD has told me to go to the Jordan River.”

But again Elisha replied, “As surely as the LORD lives and you yourself live, I will never leave you.” So they went on together.

<sup>7</sup> Fifty men from the group of prophets also went and watched from a distance as Elijah and Elisha stopped beside the Jordan River. <sup>8</sup> Then Elijah folded his cloak together and struck the water with it. The river divided, and the two of them went across on dry ground!

<sup>9</sup> When they came to the other side, Elijah said to Elisha, “Tell me what I can do for you before I am taken away.”

And Elisha replied, “Please let me inherit a double share of your spirit and become your successor.”

<sup>10</sup> “You have asked a difficult thing,” Elijah replied. “If you see me when I am taken from you, then you will get your request. But if not, then you won’t.”

<sup>11</sup> As they were walking along and talking, suddenly a chariot of fire appeared, drawn by horses of fire. It drove between the two men, separating them, and Elijah was carried by a whirlwind into heaven. <sup>12</sup> Elisha saw it and cried out, “My father! My father! I see the chariots and charioteers of Israel!” And as they disappeared from sight, Elisha tore his clothes in distress.

This is the Word of God for the people of God.

**Thanks be to God for this Word.**

SERMON

“Let’s Get Our Holy On!”

Rev. Lattig

OFFERTORY

Christie Spriggs

Please proceed up the center aisle to place your offering in the plate or scan one of the QR codes on the back of this bulletin to make your offering electronically using PayPal or Tithe.ly.

\*DOXOLOGY

UMH 95

\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION (unison)

Karhleen Meredith

**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.**

\*HYMN

“Swing Low, Sweet Chariot”

UMH 703

\*BENEDICTION

Rev. Lattig

POSTLUDE

Christie Spriggs

## **This Week's Schedule**

**Monday, Feb 12**

**10 Chair Yoga (HH)**

**11:30 LWJ Yoga (HH)**

**Tuesday, Feb 13**

**10-1 Life With Joy (HH)**

**6 Cub Scouts (HH)**

**Wednesday, Feb 14**

**10-3 Life With Joy (HH)**

**5:30 Soup Supper**

**7 Ash Wednesday Service**

**LENT BEGINS**

**Thursday, Feb 15**

**10-1 Life With Joy (HH)**

**Saturday, Feb 17**

**9-2 Treasures of Hope**

**Sunday, Feb 18**

**9 Joy Fellowship Service (HH)**

**Sunday School (1B)**

**10:30 Sanctuary Service**

Tithe.ly



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## **Today's Worship Leaders**

Pastor

Music Coordinator/Joy Fellowship

Liturgist

Greeter

Camera Operator

Soundboard Operator

Rev. Todd R. Lattig

Christie Spriggs

Kathleen Meredith

Evelyn Cornwell

Jen Phlegar

Jay Morrison