



## Sunday of the Transfiguration

“To put it simply: the Holy Spirit bothers us. Because he moves us, he makes us walk, he pushes the Church to go forward. And we are like Peter at the Transfiguration: ‘Ah, how wonderful it is to be here like this, all together! But don’t bother us.’ We want the Holy Spirit to doze off... [W]e want to domesticate the Holy Spirit. And that’s no good. Because he is God, he is that wind which comes and goes and you don’t know where. He is the power of God, he is the one who gives us consolation and strength to move forward. But: to move forward! And this bothers us. It’s so much nicer to be comfortable.”

*Kindly silence cell phones and other devices during worship. All hymns are included on pages 5-8.*

John Hermann Loud

Psalm 99

St. Denio

God, though we worship in places near and far today, we welcome your Spirit as it joins us together as one people. Lift up our worship, inspire our prayers, infuse them with your grace, your love, your power. We pray these things in your Son's name. Amen.

## Gloria (Unison)

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.

## Words of Welcome; Our Ministry and Mission

Anthem

*With a Voice of Singing*

Martin Shaw

## Children's Moment

We read one of the wildest stories in all Scripture today, that of the Transfiguration. Jesus goes up a mountain, leaving Peter, James, and John behind, and something happens. He is radiant, and with him are Elijah and Moses. Those traveling with Jesus, including Peter, are amazed! Now, we don't know what actually happened. We only have the account in the Gospels; there is no film, no physical evidence. Was this a story about a strange, miraculous event that took place one day in Judea, or was it simply told in the early church to highlight how encounters with God can change us? We don't know. But remember this: meeting God will change us in ways we can't even describe at first. Be open, in your heart and mind, to such encounters.

Hymn 182 (p. 6)

*We Have Come at Christ's Own Bidding*

Hyfrydol

## Scripture Lessons

**Exodus 34:29-35.** <sup>29</sup>Moses came down from Mount Sinai. As he came down from the mountain with the two tablets of the covenant in his hand, Moses did not know that the skin of his face shone because he had been talking with God. <sup>30</sup>When Aaron and all the Israelites saw Moses, the skin of his face was shining, and they were afraid to come near him. <sup>31</sup>But Moses called to them; and Aaron and all the leaders of the congregation returned to him, and Moses spoke with them. <sup>32</sup>Afterward all the Israelites came near, and he gave them in commandment all that the Lord had spoken with him on Mount Sinai. <sup>33</sup>When Moses had finished speaking with them, he put a veil on his face; <sup>34</sup>but whenever Moses went in before the Lord to speak with him, he would take the veil off, until he came out; and when he came out, and told the Israelites what he had been commanded, <sup>35</sup>the Israelites would see the face of Moses, that the skin of his face was shining; and Moses would put the veil on his face again, until he went in to speak with him.

**Luke 9:28-36.** <sup>28</sup>Now about eight days after these sayings Jesus took with him Peter and John and James, and went up on the mountain to pray. <sup>29</sup>And while he was praying, the appearance of his face changed, and his clothes became dazzling white. <sup>30</sup>Suddenly they saw two men, Moses and Elijah, talking to him. <sup>31</sup>They appeared in glory and were speaking of his departure, which he was about to accomplish at Jerusalem. <sup>32</sup>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. <sup>33</sup>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. <sup>34</sup>While he was saying this, a cloud came and overshadowed them; and they were terrified as they

entered the cloud. <sup>35</sup>Then from the cloud came a voice that said, "This is my Son, my Chosen; listen to him!" <sup>36</sup>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.

**Sermon** "Eyewitness News" Stephen R. Silver

**Hymn 147** (p. 7) *All Praise to Thee, for Thou, O King Divine* Engelberg

### **Sharing of Joys and Concerns; Pastoral Prayer**

*As we hold our community members in prayer, please exercise care and discretion when sharing. Help us keep our prayer list current by contacting the church office to add or remove names.*

Today we offer our ongoing prayers for Pete, Lloyd, Arlene, Evelyn, Barbara, Greg, Edith, Jan, Eileen, Jean, Michelle, Stephanie, Paulette, and Carolin.

O God, we stand on the cusp of Lent, and ask your blessing upon us as we prepare and repent during this holy season. Be with each and all of us as we look into our hearts, acknowledging our sins. Give us the will to do better, and open our minds to your Spirit, so that we may be guided down your paths, the Way of Jesus. Renew us as we seek to turn back to you, in faith and love. Grant us grace and peace, we pray. Amen.

We pray this, and all the joys and concerns we hold in our hearts, in the name of Jesus Christ, your Son, our Savior. Amen.

### **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.

### **Offering of Gifts**

*Remembering those who are without, who are in need, who are often ignored, we invite your support of our ongoing ministry in and for the community.*

**Offertory** *O Sing Joyfully* Adrian Batten

### **Doxology (Unison)**

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

### **Prayer of Dedication (Unison)**

Transfigured God, who showed us in Jesus how to serve others, we give thanks for the opportunities with which we have been graced to care for your people and your creation. Bless these gifts and fire our imaginations, so that we may faithfully serve others as you have served us. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

## Benediction

My friends, life is short. We do not have too much time to gladden the hearts of those who travel the way with us. So, be swift to love, and make haste to be kind.

Now go forth with the love of God, the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, this day and forevermore. Amen.

## Postlude

*Fugue in G Minor, BWV 578*

Johann Sebastian Bach

\* \* \*

## *Leading Worship This Week*

The Rev. Stephen R. Silver, Pastor

Ernie Drown, Organ/Piano • The FCC Choir • Phil Hammond, Liturgist

*If you wish to have a joy, concern, or prayer request lifted up in the service, or if you know of someone who may need special prayers, a card or phone call, or some other form of pastoral care, please email [prayer@fccleb.org](mailto:prayer@fccleb.org) or speak with Rev. Silver directly.*

## **Ecumenical Ash Wednesday Service at WLCC—March 2 at 7:00 pm**

All are welcome to gather as a community at West Lebanon Congregational Church (18 Maple St, or via Zoom) to initiate the holy season of Lent, with our friends from West Leb, the Greater Hartford United Church, and the Lebanon and WRJ United Methodist Churches. *If you are unable to attend in person, please contact the church office to receive the Zoom link. Interested singers may join an ecumenical choir for an offertory anthem (please arrive for rehearsal at 6:15).*

**You are invited to bring canned goods and/or financial contributions for an offering to be divided between Listen and the WRJ United Methodist food pantry.**

*If you would like to receive daily devotional reflections during Lent from Rev. Steve Silver, please contact the church office or email him directly at [silver@fccleb.org](mailto:silver@fccleb.org).*

\* \* \* **HOLY WEEK IS APRIL 10-17, 2022** \* \* \*

## **It's Almost Time for the Lenten Lunch Bag Offering**

The arrival of Lent brings the **Children's Community Corner** Lunch Bag Offering! We once again ask for your participation in this annual collection of savings from a regular sacrifice during Lent. The total collection on Palm Sunday (April 10) will be split between **Epilogos Charities** and **WISE of the Upper Valley**. (Decorated paper bags will be available, but not required to participate.)

***The Children's Community Corner thanks you for supporting this stewardship project!***

## Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

Walter C. Smith, 1824-1908, alt.

ST. DENIO 11.11.11.11.  
Welsh Hymn Melody

1 Im - mor - tal, in - vis - i - ble, God on - ly wise,  
 2 Un - rest - ing, un - hast - ing, and si - lent as light,  
 3 To all, life thou giv - est to both great and small;  
 4 Great Fa - ther of glo - ry, pure Fa - ther of light,

In light in - ac - ces - si - ble hid from our eyes,  
 Nor want - ing, nor wast - ing, thou rul - est in might;  
 In all life thou liv - est, the true life of all;  
 Thine an - gels a - dore thee, all veil - ing their sight;

Most bless - ed, most glo - rious, the An - cient of Days,  
 Thy jus - tice like moun - tains high soar - ing a - bove  
 We blos - som and flour - ish as leaves on the tree,  
 All praise we would ren - der; O help us to see

Al - might - y, vic - to - rious, thy great name we praise.  
 Thy clouds which are foun - tains of good - ness and love.  
 And with - er and per - ish, but naught chang - eth thee.  
 'Tis on - ly the splen - dor of light hid - eth thee. A - men.

1 We have come at Christ's own bid - ding to this high and  
 2 Light breaks through our clouds and shad - ows, splen - dor bathes the  
 3 Strength-ened by this glimpse of glo - ry, fear - ful lest our

ho - ly place, Where we wait with hope and long - ing for some  
 flesh-joined Word, Mo - ses and E - li - jah mar - vel as the  
 faith de - cline, We, like Pe - ter, find it tempt-ing to re -

to - ken of God's grace. Here we pray for new as -  
 heav - enly voice is heard. Eyes and hearts be - hold with  
 main and build a shrine. But true wor - ship gives us

sur - ance that our faith is not in vain, Search - ing  
 won - der how the Law and Proph - ets meet: Christ with  
 cour - age to pro - claim what we pro - fess, That our

like those first dis - ci - ples for a sign both clear and plain.  
 gar - ments drenched in bright - ness, stands trans - fig - ured and com - plete.  
 dai - ly lives may prove us peo - ple of the God we bless.

*In his commentary on the text, hymnwriter Carl P. Daw, Jr., describes the "implicit comparison between the attitudes and assumptions of the disciples on the Mount of the Transfiguration and the expectations of present-day Christians as they gather for worship."*

Tune: HYFRYDOL 8.7.8.7.D.  
 Rowland H. Prichard, 1844  
 Arr. Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1906

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## All Praise to Thee, for Thou, O King Divine

F. Bland Tucker, 1895-

ENGELBERG 10.10.10. with Alleluia  
Charles V. Stanford, 1852-1924

1 All praise to thee, for thou, O King di - vine, Didst yield the  
 2 Thou cam'st to us in low - li - ness of thought; By thee the  
 3 Let this mind be in us which was in thee, Who wast a  
 4 Let ev - ery tongue con - fess with one ac - cord In heaven and

glo - ry that of right was thine, That in our dark-ened hearts thy  
 out - cast and the poor were sought, And by thy death was God's sal -  
 serv - ant that we might be free, Hum - bling thy - self to death on  
 earth that Je - sus Christ is Lord; And God the Fa - ther be by

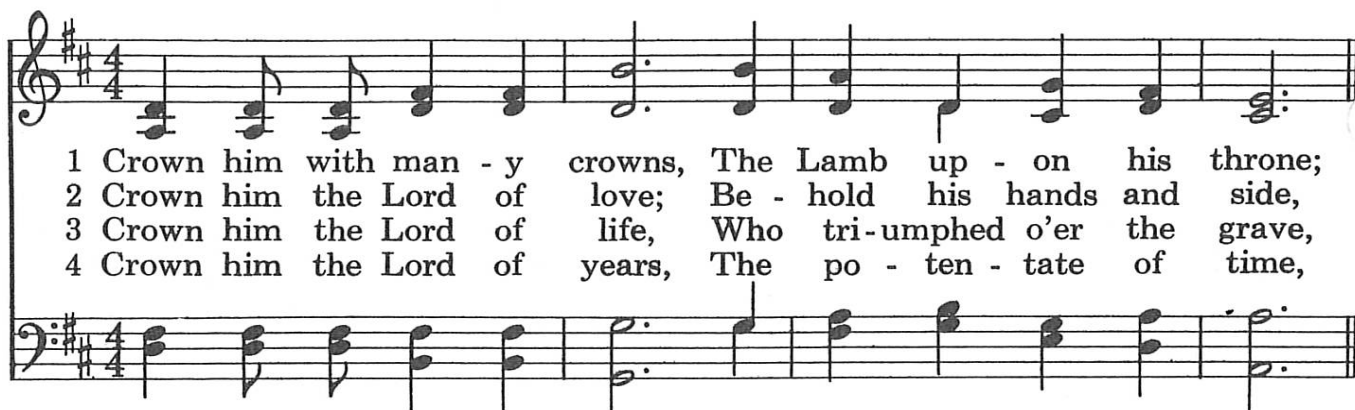
grace might shine.  
 va - tion wrought. Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!  
 Cal - va - ry.  
 all a - dored.

St. 1, 2, 3 St. 4 In harmony  
 A-men.

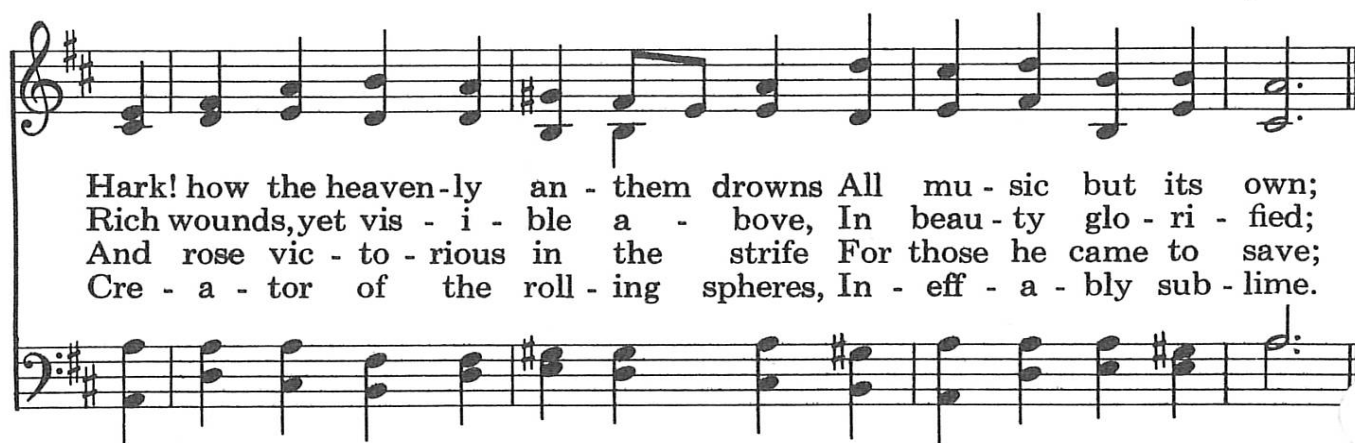
## Crown Him With Many Crowns

Matthew Bridges, 1800-1894  
 Godfrey Thring, 1823-1903, St. 3

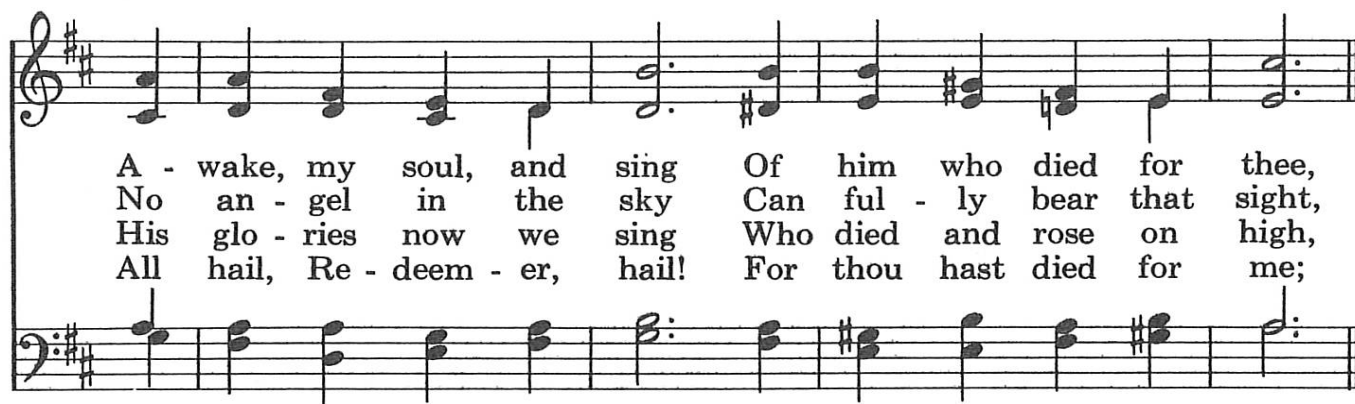
DIADEMATA S.M.D.  
 George J. Elvey, 1816-1893



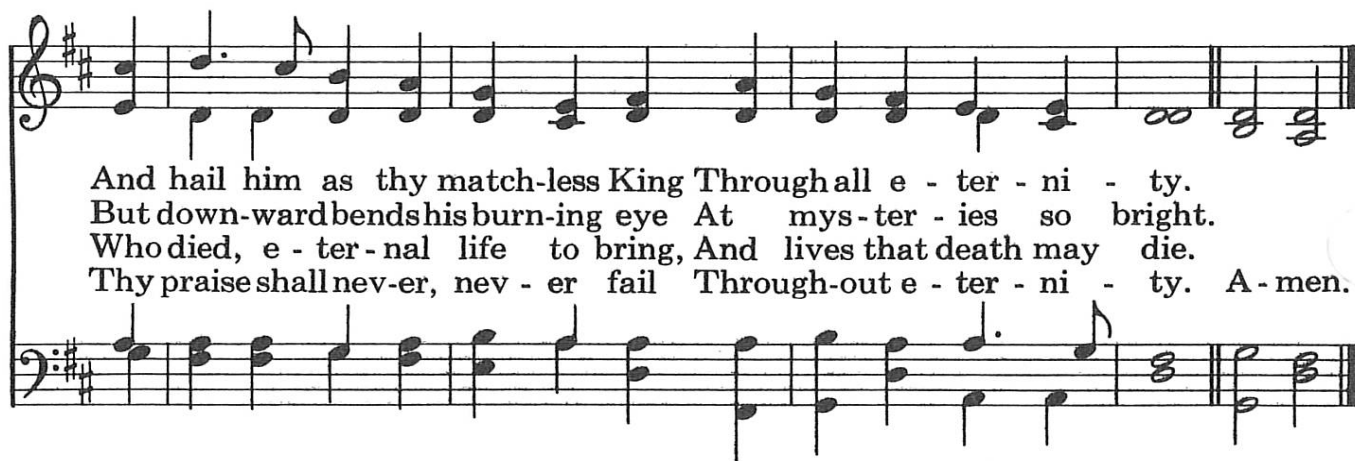
1 Crown him with man - y crowns, The Lamb up - on his throne;  
 2 Crown him the Lord of love; Be - hold his hands and side,  
 3 Crown him the Lord of life, Who tri-umphed o'er the grave,  
 4 Crown him the Lord of years, The po - ten - tate of time,



Hark! how the heaven-ly an - them drowns All mu - sic but its own;  
 Rich wounds, yet vis - i - ble a - bove, In beau - ty glo - ri - fied;  
 And rose vic - to - rious in the strife For those he came to save;  
 Cre - a - tor of the roll - ing spheres, In - eff - a - bly sub - lime.



A - wake, my soul, and sing Of him who died for thee,  
 No an - gel in the sky Can ful - ly bear that sight,  
 His glo - ries now we sing Who died and rose on high,  
 All hail, Re - deem - er, hail! For thou hast died for me;



And hail him as thy match-less King Through all e - ter - ni - ty.  
 But down-ward bends his burn-ing eye At mys - ter - ies so bright.  
 Who died, e - ter - nal life to bring, And lives that death may die.  
 Thy praises shall nev - er, nev - er fail Through-out e - ter - ni - ty. A - men.





### ***The Anonymous Coffeehouse—Fridays, February 25, March 11 and 25, all 7:30***

This highly popular venue for established and emerging musicians features several acoustic acts, and patrons may come and go as they please; baked goods and non-alcoholic drinks are available.

And it's all free of charge, so please come and enjoy! *For more details, visit [anoncoffee.org](http://anoncoffee.org).*

### ***Muskeg Music Presents Atlantic Crossing—Saturday, March 12, at 7:00***

Enchanting contra-dance halls throughout New England for over two decades, Vermont-based Atlantic Crossing draws from both Celtic traditions of the British Isles and the music of Maritime and French Canada. Join us for this special concert rooted in a rich heritage of music and dance.

*Adults \$15, children free; for more details, visit [atlanticcrossingvt.com](http://atlanticcrossingvt.com).*

### ***Classicopia: The Dancing Cello—Sunday, March 20, at 2:00***

Our friend Elizabeth Borowsky brings back her mother, famed cellist Cecylia Barczyk, to usher in spring with bright, brilliant music for piano and cello. The program includes rhapsodies and dances by Ludwig van Beethoven, Frédéric Chopin, Claude Debussy, and more. *Adults \$20,*

*FCC members \$15, children free; advance tickets and more at [www.classicopia.org/concert/1091/](http://www.classicopia.org/concert/1091/).*

### ***Upper Valley Music Center Faculty Showcase—Saturday, April 2, at 4:00***

Come enjoy a diverse program featuring the vocal and instrumental excellence of the faculty next door at UVMC. *Adults \$15, under 18 free; proceeds benefit tuition assistance fund. More at [www.uvmusic.org](http://www.uvmusic.org).*

## **One Great Hour of Sharing: “Love Remains”—Special UCC Mission Offering**

This annual, nationwide UCC offering funds mission initiatives around the world. It supports healthcare, education, agriculture, refugee assistance, and disaster relief in over 130 countries.

OGHS funds are leveraged with local, national, and global partners to maximize their impact.

***Please consider a contribution as you are able, and thank you for SHARING!***

*(Payable to FCC, with “OGHS” in the memo line. Contributions gratefully accepted until Easter.)*



**First Congregational Church of Lebanon**

PO Box 230

10 South Park St

Lebanon NH 03766

**Weekly Worship Resources Enclosed!**

*DATED MATERIAL—Please Deliver Promptly*

***Do you use email? Contact [church@fccleb.org](mailto:church@fccleb.org) to receive this and other communication by email.***

***Welcome!***

We are a Christ-centered community that celebrates the love of God. Although we are of varied minds, with varying measures of belief and unbelief, we are one body, bound together in Christ. We recognize the uniqueness of every individual as God's beloved child. We seek to respond faithfully to God's call for justice for all creation. We strive in word and deed to be faithful to Jesus' model of loving acceptance. We seek to create a sanctuary where all will know they are welcome and included.

No matter your age, gender identity, sexual orientation, marital status, race or ethnicity, physical or mental ability, or economic circumstance, you are invited into the full life and ministry of First Congregational Church of Lebanon, including its worship, sacraments, and rites.

***Join us as we grow together in God's love.***

**First Congregational Church of Lebanon**

The Rev. Stephen R. Silver, Pastor

Ernie Drown, Organist and Choir Director • Nancy Parsons, Children's Community Corner  
Jon Scott, Chair of Church Council • Linda Gerlach, Chair of Deacons • Barbara Jones, Moderator  
Brian Clancy, Church Administrator

*Church Office Hours: Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, 9:00-12:00 (or by appointment as needed)*  
**603-448-4281 • [church@fccleb.org](mailto:church@fccleb.org) • [prayer@fccleb.org](mailto:prayer@fccleb.org) • [music@fccleb.org](mailto:music@fccleb.org) • [www.fccleb.org](http://www.fccleb.org)**