

WE CONFESS OUR NEED

All: Almighty God, Heavenly Father, we come before you in our need, for we have been broken by sin and need your loving power through your Son, Jesus Christ to restore us once again. Forgive us for longing only for mountaintop experiences that do not endure. Forgive us for our thirst for glory and humble us this Lenten season. Forgive us when we are distracted by so many things and our eyes drift from you. Forgive and renew, O Lord. Strengthen our faith. Amen.

WORDS OF GRACE

APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.
And in Jesus Christ, His only son our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen

Scripture Readings February 3, 2008

Exodus 24:12, 15-18

The LORD said to Moses, "Come up to me on the mountain and stay here, and I will give you the tablets of stone, with the law and commands I have written for their instruction." When Moses went up on the mountain, the cloud covered it, and the glory of the LORD settled on Mount Sinai. For six days the cloud covered the mountain, and on the seventh day the LORD called to Moses from within the cloud. To the Israelites the glory of the LORD looked like a consuming fire on top of the mountain. Then Moses entered the cloud as he went on up the mountain. And he stayed on the mountain forty days and forty nights.

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God!

Revelation 21:1-7

Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and there was no longer any sea. I saw the Holy City, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride beautifully dressed for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Now the dwelling of God is with men, and he will live with them. They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God. He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away." He who was seated on the throne said, "I am making everything new!" Then he said, "Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true." He said to me: "It is done. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. To him who is thirsty I will give to drink without cost from the spring of the water of life. He who overcomes will inherit all this, and I will be his God and he will be my son.

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God!

Matthew 17:1-8

The Transfiguration

After six days Jesus took with him Peter, James and John the brother of James, and led them up a high mountain by themselves. There he was transfigured before them. His face shone like the sun, and his clothes became as white as the light. Just then there appeared before them Moses and Elijah, talking with Jesus. Peter said to Jesus, "Lord, it is good for us to be here. If you wish, I will put up three shelters—one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah." While he was still speaking, a bright cloud enveloped them, and a voice from the cloud said, "This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased. Listen to him!" When the disciples heard this, they fell facedown to the ground, terrified. But Jesus came and touched them. "Get up," he said. "Don't be afraid." When they looked up, they saw no one except Jesus.

Leader: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

Sermon Outline - February 3, 2008
"A Mountaintop Experience" • Matthew 17:1-8
Transfiguration Sunday

Introduction: "Wanna get away...?" Exposed!

1. A mountaintop experience.

"After six days Jesus took with him Peter, James and John the brother of James, and led them up a high mountain by themselves. There he was transfigured before them. His face shone like the sun, and his clothes became as white as the light." v.1-2

- The mountain _____.

2. Let's "capture the moment!"

Peter said to Jesus, "Lord, it is good for us to be here. If you wish, I will put up three shelters—one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah." v.4

- Ministry happens _____ more than the mountaintops

3. Even in glory, Jesus' heart reaches to us.

When the disciples heard this, they fell facedown to the ground, terrified. But Jesus came and touched them. "Get up," he said. "Don't be afraid." v.6-7

- His goal is not glory; His glory _____.

4. Seeing no one but Jesus.

"When they looked up, they saw no one except Jesus." v.8

- Study your Savior _____ wherever you go.

Answers to Sermon Outline: before the valley, in the valleys, accomplishes the goal, to recognize Him