

BELLS CORNERS UNITED CHURCH
TRANSFIGURATION SUNDAY FEBRUARY 19, 2023 – 10 am

*Indicates stand as able

* *The live service will be broadcasted and recorded on YouTube, check your email for the link.*

Gathering Music: Shine on Us - MW & DD Smith

Band

***Opening Hymn: My Lighthouse** © 2014 Rend Collective (Chris Llewellyn / Gareth Gilkeson)

1. In my wrestling, and in my doubts,
in my failures, You won't walk out.
Your great love will lead me through;
You are the peace in my troubled sea,
whoa oh, You are the peace
in my troubled sea.

Chorus:

*My Lighthouse, my Lighthouse
shining in the darkness, I will follow You!
O-O-Oh, My Lighthouse, my Lighthouse,
I will trust the promise: You will carry me
safe to sho.....re (4x)*

2. In the silence, You won't let go.
In the questions, Your truth will hold.
Your great love will lead me through;
You are the peace in my troubled sea,
whoa oh, You are the peace
in my troubled sea.

3. I won't fear what tomorrow brings.
With each morning, I'll rise and sing.
My God's love will lead me through;
You are the peace in my troubled sea,
whoa oh, You are the peace
in my troubled sea. (chorus)

Bridge 3x: Fire before us, You're the brightest. You will lead us through the storms

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Lighting of the Christ Candle:

Acolytes: Mya, Inara, and Charlie Wightman

(Fern Gibbard, Gathering, ACE 2020/2021, p52. Used with Permission.)

The light of Christ shines on us and in us.

The light of Christ leads us.

The light of Christ transforms us.

We light this candle in the certainty that Christ's light is here with us today.

Hymn: Shine, Jesus, Shine! Words & Music by Graham Kendrick CCLI Song #30426

1. Lord, the light of Your love is shining
in the midst of the darkness, shining
Jesus, Light of the World shine upon us,
set us free by the truth You now bring us
Shine on me, shine on me

2. 2. Lord, I come to Your awesome presence
from the shadows into Your radiance.
By Your love I may enter Your brightness.
Search me, try me, consume all my darkness.
Shine on me, shine on me *Refrain*

Refrain: Shine, Jesus, shine.

Fill this land with Your love and glory
Blaze, Spirit, blaze. Set our hearts on fire
Flow, river, flow. Flood the nations with
grace and mercy, Send forth Your word
Lord, and let there be light

3. 3. As we gaze on Your holy brightness,
so our faces display Your likeness
Ever changing from glory to glory
Mirrored here may our lives tell Your story
Shine on me, shine on me *Refrain*

Welcome & Announcements

Rev. Lorrie Lowes

Good morning! I welcome and greet you in the name of Jesus, who brings light to the world, on this Transfiguration Sunday. Join us for coffee and fellowship after the service in the main hall. some announcements. Pancake supper(and volunteers)... Ash Wednesday service...
Lent booklets... AGM – March 5

Friends, I now invite you to centre yourselves in the light as we gather in worship.

Call to Gather: (Responsively)

Nicholas Berard and Pearl Piccoli

(based on input from the BCUC Sunday School a few years ago!)

Nicholas: We have heard that Jesus is the “Light of the World”.

Pearl: But there are so many different lights in this world. Which light will lead us to Jesus?

Nicholas: Maybe Jesus is in the sun and the moon?

Yes! These lights give us life and mark our days. Surely Jesus is there!

Pearl: We light candles each week in church. Is Jesus there?

Yes! Our Christ candle reminds us that Jesus is with us as we worship.

Pearl: Out on the road we see headlights and traffic lights.

Nicholas: We see ambulance lights and firetruck lights and lights on police cars.

Pearl: Could Jesus be there too?

Yes! All of these lights show us caring and careful people keeping us safe.

Jesus is certainly there!

Nicholas: Sometimes at night we use a flashlight or a nightlight.

Can Jesus really be in those little lights?

Yes! Jesus is always there to help us find our way, even in the dark.

Pearl: Could Jesus be in the light of a campfire?

Nicholas: Or the light that flashes when our hockey team scores a goal?

Yes! Jesus is with us in quiet times and in celebrations.

Pearl: It sounds like Jesus is always with us!

Nicholas: And all the lights around us can remind us of that!

Yes! As we worship this day, may these lights remind us that Jesus is the Light of the World!"

Prayer of Approach: Rev. Lorrie (Laura Turnbull, Gathering ACE 2022-2023, Year A, p54.)

One and eternal God of time and space, we are filled with awe. We discover the glory of your presence on hillsides and mountaintops, in the beauty of lakes and valleys, and we are enthralled. Blessed are you. Help us to not take for granted the wonder of the mountaintops or the valleys, the hillsides or the lakes, for you are the Morning Star, rising in our hearts. Amen.

(Used with permission.)

Special Music: Be A Light - Hayes

CGS/Bell Canto director: Erin Berard

Time for the Young at Heart: Erin Berard

Prayer of Jesus /The Lord’s Prayer: (Unison)

Our Father, who art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name.

Thy kin-dom 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 kin-dom, the power and the glory,
Forever and ever, Amen.**

***Hymn: This Little Light of Mine**

This little light of mine	Everywhere I go,
I'm gonna let it shine (3X)	I'm gonna let it shine! (3X)
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine!	Let it shine, let it shine, Let it shine!
Hide it under a bushel – No!	This little light of mine
I'm gonna let it shine (3X)	I'm gonna let it shine (3X)
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine!	Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine!

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Prayer for Illumination: (Unison)

Rev. Lorrie

**Holy One, may we be curious visitors in long-ago times,
visualizing early hearers of these words.**

**In company with Jesus, may we come with open minds and open hearts,
And may we find gifts of the Spirit for our own time. Amen.**

This morning we will hear the word in a different way. We will *see* the familiar story here in our midst.

Skit: The Transfiguration (based on Matthew 17:1–8, Mark 9:2–8, Luke 9:28–36)

Ministry of Music: You Are Holy – Imboden/Rhoten

Band

Sermon: “Carrying the Light”

Rev. Lorrie

Music Video – India Arie “I Am Light” <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ism8dBjxKvc>

Prayers of the People:

Rev. Lorrie

Radiant God, It is good that we are here

It is indeed right and good that we give you thanks for the many blessings you give us.

We thank you for this amazingly diverse world with its kaleidoscope of colour and texture and culture.

Open our minds to see how everything in Creation is interconnected according to your plan.

Open our hearts to fuller understanding and our eyes to see Jesus in the many ways he comes to us –
through people, known and unknown, familiar and different, near and far - through the beauty and
abundance of Creation - through the love and generosity of others.

Give us the courage to radiate the beauty of the transfigured Jesus in all that we do.

God of Light,

We bring to you the week we've had with all of its mountain-top highs and deep valley lows.

We offer to you the week ahead with our excitement of anticipation as well as our fears and worries.

We bring to you all those in our hearts who are suffering through these days in many ways and
circumstances – named and nameless, expressed, and in the silence of our hearts.

Give us opportunities to be your hands, feet and heart in the world.

Give us the clarity to see that you are with us in all that we do and experience.

Illuminating God,

Help us to cope with the disturbing and sometimes frustrating events in our world.

Give us patience to deal with a pandemic that seems to go on forever.
Give us hope that humankind will come together to care for the beautiful world you have created.
Give us bravery to speak up for those whose voices are not heard and whose needs are great.
Give us the vision to see the places where your light shines in the darkness.
Help us to be that light for those around us.
All these things we ask in the name of the transfigured Jesus who helped the world to see the way to fulfill your dream for Creation. Amen

Musical Offering: You Shine – Doerksen Band

Invitation to Offer: Rev. Lorrie

The transformation that we feel in those mountaintop experiences when we know God is with us, can only transform the world if we move down from that lofty height into the reality of the world, ready to lift others by sharing that love where it is needed most.

Let us offer our gifts of time, talents and treasures so that the ministry of this church will be a growing, vibrant witness to God's healing love. We are not passing the offering plates these days but you will find them on the narthex table. There are many other ways you can support the work of BCUC as noted in the announcements. Thank you for your continued love and support to Bels Corners United Church.

Offertory Hymn: We Give Our Thanks - More Voices #187

1. We give our thanks to God, (4X)
5. We give our hearts to you, (3X) because you first loved us.

***Offertory Prayer: (Responsive)** (David Sparks, Gathering A/C/E 2014/15, p48. Used with permission.)

You take us to the holy place, O God,

Your inspired presence lifts us up and gives us new life.

You bring us down to earth, O God.

Through your eyes, we see what needs to be done and find the strength to begin.

Bless these gifts, O God,

Through which the ordinary shines with holiness. Amen.

***Hymn: A Light is Gleaming - Voices United #82**

Refrain:

A light is gleaming,
spreading its arms throughout the night,
living in the light.

Come share its gladness,
God's radiant love is burning bright,
living in the light.

1 When light comes pouring into the darkest place, it hurts our eyes to see the glow. Sometimes a word of hope reminds us of our fears, our memories and tears. R

2 When night is round us and every shadow grows, a star is there to light our way.

It tells a story of Jesus who came near to say: "God's light will ever stay." R

3 And Jesus showed us a brighter path to walk. He showed us things we hadn't seen. Now we, like Jesus, can help creation shine, and this will be a sign: R

4 So let us live in the brightness God has giv'n, and let us rise to see the dawn. We trust that God is here a sparkle and a blaze, warming all our days. R

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***Sending Forth: Rev. Lorrie** (Jan Richardson, Circle of Grace, p85)

As we prepare to leave the mountaintop and journey back into the ordinary and everyday of life in the world, let us go with these words of transformation written by Jan Richardson in our hearts:

That when glory comes,
We will open our eyes to see it.
That when glory shows up,
We will let ourselves, Be overcome
Not by fear, But by the love, It bears.
That when glory shines,
We will bring it, Back with us
All the way, All the way, all the way down.

Go with renewed inspiration and the confidence that Jesus shows us the path, and that God accompanies us each step of the way. **Amen.**

***Sung Blessing: Peace Be With You – More Voices #215 sing twice**

Peace be with you, peace forever, Peace be with you, my friends.
Till we meet again, may God be with you. Peace, peace, peace.

Dance Party!