

For the Interim Time

by John O'Donohue, from *Benedictus, A Book of Blessings*

A Blessing for all those going through a time of change at the moment.

When near the end of day, life has drained
Out of light, and it is too soon
For the mind of night to have darkened things,

No place looks like itself, loss of outline
Makes everything look strangely in-between,
Unsure of what has been, or what might come.

In this wan light, even trees seem groundless.
In a while it will be night, but nothing
Here seems to believe the relief of darkness.

You are in this time of the interim
Where everything seems withheld.

The path you took to get here has washed out;
The way forward is still concealed from you.

“The old is not old enough to have died away;
The new is still too young to be born.”

You cannot lay claim to anything;
In this place of dusk,
Your eyes are blurred;
And there is no mirror.

Everyone else has lost sight of your heart
And you can see nowhere to put your trust;
You know you have to make your own way through.

As far as you can, hold your confidence.
Do not allow confusion to squander
This call which is loosening
Your roots in false ground,
That you might come free
From all you have outgrown.

What is being transfigured here in your mind,
And it is difficult and slow to become new.
The more faithfully you can endure here,
The more refined your heart will become
For your arrival in the new dawn.

Westminster PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



FEBRUARY 14, 2021



TRANSFIGURATION SUNDAY



We Come Into God's Presence

PRELUDE

Gymnopedie No. 3

Erik Satie

WELCOME AND OPENING PRAYER

CALL TO WORSHIP (see page 1)

For the Interim Time

John O'Donohue

HYMN #314 (see page 4)

Longing for Light, We Wait in Darkness

CHRIST, BE OUR LIGHT

We Hear God's Word

READING FROM THE EPISTLES

2 Corinthians 4:3–6

Barb Greschaw, liturgist

And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. For we do not proclaim ourselves; we proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and ourselves as your slaves for Jesus' sake. For it is the God who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

ANTHEM

When the Night is Falling

Dennis Jernigan

GOSPEL READING

Mark 9:2–9

Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and John, and led them up a high mountain apart, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no one on earth could bleach them. And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses, who were talking with Jesus. Then Peter said to Jesus, "Rabbi, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." He did not know what to say, for they were terrified. Then a cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud there came a voice, "This is my Son, the Beloved; listen to him!" Suddenly when they looked around, they saw no one with them any more, but only Jesus.

As they were coming down the mountain, he ordered them to tell no one about what they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead.

SERMON

Transfiguring Thresholds

Rev. Dr. Melissa Lynn DeRosia

We Respond to God's Word

PREPARATION FOR PRAYER #286 (see page 5) *Breathe on Me, Breath of God*

TRENTHAM

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**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.**

HYMN #378 (see page 6)

We Wait the Peaceful Kingdom

MERLE'S TUNE

We Go Forth to Serve

BENEDICTION

... and let all God's people say, "Alleluia! Amen!"

POSTLUDE

Gymnopedie No. 1

Erik Satie

WE PRAY FOR OUR WESTMINSTER FAMILY

Ongoing needs

Cara and Conn Doane
Hal Flynn
Kathryn Foltz

Condolences

To the Michalak family on the January 15 death of son Jesse
To Douglas Northrup and family on the January 28 death of his father Richard Northrup

Please email prayer requests to Emily Kerr (emelcher@umich.edu) for listing here and in the *Friday Good Things Are Happening* email; or contact Jill Fairchild, prayer chain coordinator (jill@thefairchilds.net or 734-417-0816). You can join our email prayer chain by contacting Jill. To keep us current, please share updates on those for whom we are praying.

Longing for Light, We Wait in Darkness



1 Long-ing for light, we wait in dark-ness. Long-ing for
2 Long-ing for peace, our world is trou-bled. Long-ing for
3 Long-ing for food, man - y are hun - gry. Long-ing for
4 Long-ing for shel - ter, man - y are home-less. Long-ing for
5 Man - y the gifts, man - y the peo - ple, man - y the



truth, we turn to you. Make us your own,
hope, man - y de - spair. Your word a - lone
wa - ter, man - y still thirst. Make us your bread,
warmth, man - y are cold. Make us your build - ing,
hearts that yearn to be - long. Let us be ser - vants



your ho - ly peo - ple, light for the world to see.
has power to save us. Make us your liv - ing voice.
bro - ken for oth - ers, shared un - til all are fed.
shel - ter - ing oth - ers, walls made of liv - ing stone.
to one an - oth - er, mak - ing your king - dom come.

Refrain



Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the



dark - ness. Christ, be our light! Shine in your



church gath - ered to - day.

Breathe on Me, Breath of God

1 Breathe on me, Breath of God; fill me with life a - new,
2 Breathe on me, Breath of God, un - til my heart is pure,
3 Breathe on me, Breath of God, till I am whol - ly thine,
4 Breathe on me, Breath of God, so shall I nev - er die,

The first system of music consists of a vocal line in G major, 3/4 time, and a piano accompaniment in the same key and time. The vocal line begins with a treble clef, a key signature of one flat (Bb), and a 3/4 time signature. The piano accompaniment begins with a bass clef, a key signature of one flat, and a 3/4 time signature. The lyrics are printed below the vocal line.

that I may love what thou dost love, and do what thou wouldst do.
un - til with thee I will one will, to do and to en - dure.
un - til this earth - ly part of me glows with thy fire di - vine.
but live with thee the per - fect life of thine e - ter - ni - ty.

The second system of music continues the vocal line and piano accompaniment from the first system. The vocal line ends with a double bar line. The piano accompaniment also ends with a double bar line. The lyrics are printed below the vocal line.

TEXT: Edwin Hatch, 1878
MUSIC: Robert Jackson, 1888

TRENTHAM
CCLI # 1543869

We Wait the Peaceful Kingdom



1 We wait the peace - ful king - dom, when wolf and lamb shall lie
2 Where is the peace - ful king - dom? When will this new day start?
3 When wars of des - o - la - tion and hate come to an end,
4 That lit - tle child shall lead us to walk the cho - sen way,



in gen - tle - ness and friend - ship with - out a fear or sigh,
We long for peace and com - fort to reign with - in each heart.
when na - tion meets with na - tion and calls the oth - er "friend,"
to share the peace - ful king - dom, to greet God's new - born day.



when li - on shall be graz - ing, when snake shall nev - er strike;
Yet not in our lives on - ly, nor sim - ply in our home:
still peace in all its full - ness will on - ly have be - gun:
The child born in a sta - ble is sent to break our chains,



a lit - tle child shall lead us both strong and weak a - like.
we pray that all cre - a - tion will one day find sha - lom.
sha - lom for all cre - a - tion be - gins with jus - tice done.
to bring through word and ta - ble the day when jus - tice reigns.

TEXT: Kathleen R. Moore, 2010
MUSIC: Hal H. Hopson, 1983

MERLE'S TUNE
CCLI # 1543869

WESTMINSTER STAFF MEMBERS All may be reached by phone at 734-761-9320

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This Week's News



Our Lenten theme this year explores healing – of body, mind, and spirit – in the metaphor of a glass vessel fractured into pieces. To invite you into this theme **we will distribute bags containing various Lenten worship materials, Monday, February 15, 10 AM–NOON** at church. Rev. DeRosia will bring your worship bag to your car. If you cannot come during this time, we will leave the bags (organized alphabetically, by Deacon Care Group) in bins outside the main (Scio Church Road) entrance for you to pick up anytime through Wednesday. If you are unable to come during *any* of these times, please contact your deacon who will deliver your worship materials to your home. We want everyone to have a worship materials bag before Ash Wednesday.

Ash Wednesday Worship: Wednesday, February 17, at 7:30 PM, Westminster joins other local churches for an ecumenical Ash Wednesday service online. Watch your email that day for the Zoom link to the service.

Easter flowers may now be ordered! The deacons (with your help) will deliver Easter flowers to our at-home members. You may also purchase flowers for our video Easter service and, following that videotaping, to take home. Flowers must be ordered no later than Sunday, February 28, at westpresa2.org/easter-flowers-2021. *Please be sure to fill out the online order form before proceeding to online payment.*

Donations for House By the Side of the Road may be brought to church on Monday, February 15, 10 AM–NOON. Kay Tuttle and Gordon Larson will be in the main parking lot to collect your items and to deliver them to this local charitable organization. Needed are clothing and small household items. Pick up your Lenten materials *and* deliver help to neighbors, in one trip.

Delonis Rotating Shelter needs snacks and supplies. During the month of February, 25 men will be housed at Calvary Church on Miller Avenue. Westminster members can support the program by providing bananas; clementines; individually-wrapped home baked cookies; cans of soft drinks; single-serving bags of potato chips, Fritos, Cheez-Its; single-serving boxes of cereal and juice; individual sugar and creamer packets; paper bowls (single-serving cereal-size) and cups (10- or 12-oz); plastic spoons; small Ziplock bags; large trash bags. *Please deliver donations* to the bins at the main doors at Westminster, February 15, 18, 22 and 25, 1–5 PM each day (and 10 AM–NOON on the 15th: Pick up your Lenten materials *and* deliver help to neighbors, in one trip.).

Wednesday Lecture Series: Matthew 25 Initiative. February 24, at 7 PM, Dr. Floretta “Flo” Barbee-Watkins will speak with us about the Matthew 25 initiative, as part of our new monthly Wednesday lecture series. The PC (USA) Matthew 25 Initiative seeks to deepen congregants’ faith as they work together to dismantle structural racism and systemic poverty. Dr. Flo is the Interim Executive Presbyter for our presbytery.

Friday Game Nights: Come spend a couple of hours playing board games via Zoom. Let’s chat and play together, on the last Friday of each month, February through May, 7–9 PM. Games combine elements of luck and strategy; download and print the page of game boards (one per person) at bit.ly/friday_game_night. Watch for the Zoom invite on each of the four Fridays in the Friday email.

Caregiver Conversations, led by a licensed social worker, is an informal group designed to give caregivers a safe and supportive environment to share, interact, and learn from each other. The next meeting is Tuesday, February 16, 3–4:30 PM. Register at bit.ly/care-conversation to receive the online meeting link. Please contact Roberta Hirshon (robertah@jfsannarbor.org) for more information.

☞ ————— *Welcome to Westminster* ————— ☞

We thank you for choosing to worship with us, and hope you experience God's presence and love. We invite you to indicate your presence in worship at bit.ly/worship-sign-in.

We invite you to worship with us online throughout the COVID-19 pandemic at bit.ly/westpres_online.

Westminster reaches out through both local and global mission. Opportunities are available for spiritual growth through study and practical application of the Christian message. We are serious about prayer and caring for those in need. We are an authentic faith community offering fellowship and encouragement on life's journey. We welcome all who seek deeper meaning in their lives.

More information is available on our website (www.westpresa2.org). You may contact Dr. DeRosia or any staff member by calling the church office at 734-761-9320. For deacon care, please contact Emily Kerr (emelcher@umich.edu).

The Building Readiness Task Force continues to formulate plans for reopening the church facility, referencing local and CDC guidelines, and other congregations' plans.

☞ ————— *Grow in Faith and Friendship* ————— ☞

Reading Through the Bible Group meets online, Sundays at 9:30 AM. Please contact Marcia Anderson (hilden.anderson@gmail.com; 734-757-4305) or Jun Zhang (junz@umich.edu) for the meeting invitation.

Two small groups are meeting online on alternate Sundays at 7 PM:

- *Immersion Study of James; 1, 2 Peter; 1,2,3 John; and Jude.* First and third Sundays; please contact Bryce Babcock for information (babcockjb@comcast.net).
- *Romans.* Second and fourth Sundays; please contact Marjorie McRoberts for information (marjorie1324@yahoo.com).

Monday Conversations are weekly at 1 PM on Zoom. We discuss the readings and sermon from the day before. The Zoom meeting invitation is included in the Friday Good Things and Sunday worship podcast emails, or contact Rev. DeRosia (melissa@westpresa2.org). All are welcome!

Wednesday Dessert Conversations are weekly at 7 PM on Zoom, providing time to connect, catch up with and encourage one another. The Zoom meeting invitation arrives via email on Wednesday mornings, or contact Margaret Klammer (mklammer@comcast.net).

Mary Martha Group meets online, the first and third Mondays at 7 PM. Please contact Margaret Klammer (mklammer@comcast.net) for the meeting invitation. New members are welcome.

Thursday Book Club meets at 1 PM weekly. New members are welcome. Please contact Melody McCormick-Randall to learn more (mmm0801@hotmail.com).

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