

## Sunday, 15 February 2026 – Transfiguration of the Lord

The Sunday before Ash Wednesday is the Transfiguration of the Lord, recounting when Jesus ascended the mountain with Peter, James, and John and was transfigured before them. From the Latin word *transfiguratio*, it means a complete change of form or appearance into a more beautiful or spiritual state.

<https://pcusa.org/about-pcusa/agencies-entities/interim-unified-agency/ministry-areas/theology-worship/worship/christian-year/transfiguration-lord>

### **Prelude** – *In Christ There Is No East or West*

Harry T. Burleigh (1866-1949) adapted the tune MCKEE in 1940 for use with the text *In Christ There Is No East or West*. He named it for Rev. Elmer McKee, rector of St. George's Church in New York City, where Burleigh was baritone soloist for 52 years. The first prelude is a fanfare based on this hymn tune.

### **Processional Hymn**

The tune UNSER HERRSCHER was composed by Joachim Neander (1650-1680). It is in our *Glory to God Hymnal* three times, #360 and 403, and also with a text for Transfiguration, #193 – *Jesus, Take Us to the Mountain*, sung as our Processional Hymn.

### **Sermon Hymn**

Hymn writer Sylvia Dunstan (1955-1993) was an ordained minister in the United Church of Canada. When she wrote the text *You, Lord, Are Both Lamb and Shepherd* she called it *Christus Paradox* because so many of the attributes of Christ stand in tension with each other.

### **Hymn During Prayer/Anointing**

Author Gwendolin Sims Warren wrote this about *I Want Jesus to Walk with Me*:

“African-American Christians found great comfort and encouragement in believing that this life was only a journey, a “passing through to a better place...As they passed through the bitter trials of this earth, their desire was that they not walk alone, but that Jesus walk with them. Knowing that Jesus, who had already passed through the fiery trials and come out triumphant on the other side, was walking beside them gave them courage to go on.”

Listen to Warren talk with Terry Gross on *Fresh Air* in 1998:

<https://freshairarchive.org/segments/gwendolin-sims-warren-shares-beloved-religious-songs>

### **Offertory Anthem**

Conductor and composer André J. Thomas (b. 1952) retired in 2019 as Director of Choral Activities and Professor of Music Education at The Florida State University. He is currently a visiting professor at the Yale Institute of Sacred Music. His arrangement of the Spiritual *I'm Gonna Sing When the Spirit Says Sing* was published in 2005.

### **Recessional Hymn/Postlude**

The hymn tune *Deo Gracias* is also known as *The Agincourt Song*. It is originally an English folk song from the early 15<sup>th</sup> Century that tells of the 1415 Battle of Agincourt, in which Henry V's English army defeated the French army of Charles VI.

Aaron David Miller (b. 1972) is Director of Music/Organist at The House of Hope Presbyterian Church in St. Paul, Minnesota. The tune *Deo Gracias*, also known as “The Agincourt Song” is found three times in our *Glory to God* hymnal, #189, 258, 618.