\*Welcome our Guest Pastor this Sunday

Bruce Boak is a retired pastor and member of the Presbytery of Genesee Valley. He and his wife, Martha have lived in Pittsford since 2001. After study at Grove City College and Princeton Theological Seminary Bruce served congregations in Bessemer, PA, Downingtown, PA, Canton, OH and Pittsford, NY. For 49 summers Bruce has been a summer preacher at the Wells Memorial Presbyterian Church in Avalon, NJ. Last month he worked for The Samaritan's Purse in Ft. Myers, FL repairing homes badly flooded by hurricane Ian. He has done disaster relief mission trips throughout the United States, and construction in Mexico, Mozambique, and Kenya. Bruce and Martha have a son, a daughter, three granddaughters and one grand-dog.

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**Lent Book Study** 

Grab a cup of coffee after worship and join us for a 7-week study on the book *Lent in Plain Sight* by Jill J. Duffield. The study will run on Sundays from February 19th through April 2nd. Topics for each week include:

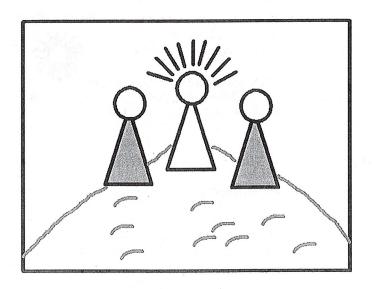
₩eek One, Feb 19: Dust and Ash Wednesday

Week Two, Feb 26: **Bread**Week Three, March 5: **Cross**Week Four, March 12: **Coins**Week Five, March 19: **Shoes** 

Week Six, March 26: Oil

Week Seven, April 2: Holy Week and Easter Sunday





# First Presbyterian Church

70 East Main Street
Victor, NY 14564
585-924-2289
www.victorpres.org
\*Guest Pastor: Rev. Bruce Boak
Organist Ayn Patrowicz

Order of Worship February 19, 2023, 10am Transfiguration Sunday \*Please stand if you are able.

**Lectionary Readings:** 

Exodus 24:12-18; Psalm 2; Psalm 99; 2 Peter 1:16-21; Matthew 17:1-9

# **Preparation for Worship**

O Lord, as you were on your way to where you'd one day die, You wanted time to rest and pray, to hear God's word to you that day. You climbed a mountain high with three good friends close by.

The Law, the Prophets guided you as you discerned God's will. With Moses and Elijah, too, you spoke of God's great plan for you, God's promise to fulfill one Friday on a hill.

O Lord, how often we pursue success at any cost, And yet we hear God's word anew, that we are called to follow you, Who served the poor and lost and journeyed to the cross.

**Prelude** 

"Be Thou My Vision", arr. by Bethany K. Smith

## Welcome & Announcements

\*Call to Worship

Leader: Let us go up the mountain. Let us go up to the place where the land meets the sky, where the earth touches the heavens,

PEOPLE: To the place of meeting,

Leader: To the place of mists and clouds, uncertainty and fear,

PEOPLE: To the place of voices and conversations, To the place of listening, and light and hope, Leader: To the place of trust and vision and awareness,

PEOPLE: To the place of revelation and truth,

Leader: Let us worship God!

\*Opening Hymn No. 75 "O Wondrous Sight, O Vision Fair" Stanzas 1, 3 and 5 \*Prayer of the Day (Unison)

We raise our voices, we look on high, our thoughts are sent above, to You, O God, who rules heaven and earth. But we forget that sometimes you speak through the humblest, the least of these in our midst, and that out of the mouth of babes comes wisdom. Today as we gather in your name, we pray for your word to be spoken directly in our hearts, and for the discernment to recognize your good news not only in those who speak, who pray, who lead, who sing, and who play, but in everyone who shares this time of worship with us today. These things we pray, trusting in your mercy and forgiveness, confident in our hope, happy in our faith. Amen.

### **Call to Confession**

Prayer of Confession (Unison)

Why are we perishing, veiling our minds against the glory of the Lord, when we might choose you and choose life? Why do we seek to stop time, creating monuments to what is past instead of walking down from your holy hill to share in the cross, the grave, and the glory of the resurrection? God of Light and Life, we confess to having distracted ourselves, mistaking the work of your kingdom with our own contentions that tear us apart, confuse our children, and appall nonbelievers. Henceforth we will no longer proclaim ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord. Let your light shine out of the darkness. Rescue us. Redeem us! Forgive us and save us, Please!

# **Assurance of Pardon**

It is good for us to be here, for we know we have all sinned and fallen short of the glory of God and that all of us are in need of God's forgiveness. We really can't save ourselves, but scripture tells us that we are justified by grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus (Rom 3:23-24). In this time of worship, we receive by faith this assurance of God's pardon. In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

\*Passing of the Peace

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you.

PEOPLE: And also with you.

Leader: Greet one another as brothers and sisters in Christ!

\*Gloria Patri No. 579

The Old Testament Reading Exodus 24:12-18

12 The Lord said to Moses, "Come up to me on the mountain and wait there; I will give you the tablets of stone, with the law and the commandment, which I have written for their instruction." 13 So Moses set out with his assistant Joshua, and Moses went up onto the mountain of God. 14 To the elders he had said, "Wait here for us, until we come back to you. Look, Aaron and Hur are with you; whoever has a dispute may go to them."

15 Then Moses went up on the mountain, and the cloud covered the mountain. 16 The glory of the Lord settled on Mount Sinai, and the cloud covered it for six days; on the seventh day he called to Moses out of the cloud. 17 Now the appearance of the glory of the Lord was like a devouring fire on the top of the mountain in the sight of the Israelites. 18 Moses entered the cloud and went up on the mountain. Moses was on the mountain for forty days and forty nights.

Special Music "Great is Thy Faithfulness, arr. By Lloyd Larson Steve Song, soloist

Prayer for Illumination (Unison)

God of the mountains and the valleys of our lives, we wait here, in this place apart, to hear and see your glory. Whether you come in dazzling light or in a quiet word, help us to interpret aright you message for us and our world. Amen.

Gospel Reading Matthew 17:1-9
The Transfiguration

17 Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain, by themselves. 2 And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became bright as light. (cont.)

Gospel Reading (cont.)

3 Suddenly there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him. 4 Then Peter said to Jesus, "Lord, it is good for us to be here; if you wish, I will set up three tents here, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." 5 While he was still speaking, suddenly a bright cloud overshadowed them, and a voice from the cloud said, "This is my Son, the Beloved; with him I am well pleased; listen to him!" 6 When the disciples heard this, they fell to the ground and were overcome by fear. 7 But Jesus came and touched them, saying, "Get up and do not be afraid." 8 And when they raised their eyes, they saw no one except Jesus himself alone.

9 As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus ordered them, "Tell no one about the vision until after the Son of Man has been raised from the dead."

Reflection On the Gospel Reading (Responsive)

From that cloud a voice was saying, "This is my beloved son." And the voice said, "Listen to him!" — to God's faithful chosen one.

While their plans were filled with glory, Christ was living out the story of his prayer, "Thy will be done."

Jesus took them down the mountain to a world of pain and loss. For he knew what lay before him; he must journey to the cross.

In his serving, in his healing, God was there, by grace revealing wondrous love comes at a cost.

Sermon

HALF-TIME REPORT

Rev. Bruce Boak

**Hymn of Reflection** "One Day

"One Day Jesus Climbed a Mountain"

This new hymn will be sung to the tune W ZLOBIE LEZY You will know the tune as "Infant Holy, Infant Lowly." It is sung more commonly at Christmas - No. 37 in the hymnal

\*words on next page

"One day Jesus climbed a mountain to a place of prayer and rest. Peter, James and John went with him to that lonely wilderness. In a moment so amazing, Jesus shone with brightness blazing, wrapped in glory, heaven-blessed."

"Jesus talked there with the prophet and the bearer of the Law. When his three disciples saw it, they were filled with joy and awe. Peter told him, "Let us stay here. We can worship God and pray here." Then a cloud came over all."

"Jesus took them down the mountain to a world of pain and loss. For he knew what lay before him; he must journey to the cross. In his serving, in his healing, God was there, by grace revealing wondrous love comes at a cost."

Offering \*Doxology No. 592

\*Unison Prayer of Dedication

Compassionate God, the world will only know that it has been good for us to be in worship when our worship extends into our service, when our moments of encounter with the living Christ give us new vision to work for justice and for peace, to feed the hungry, comfort the lonely, and to visit the sick. We dedicate ourselves to you, with the offering we now make in Christ's name.

# Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

\*Closing Hymn No. 73

"Swiftly Pass the Clouds of Glory"

\*Charge

Go out into the world in peace; have courage; hold on to what is good; return no one evil for evil; strengthen the faint hearted; support the weak, and help the suffering; honor all people; love and serve the Lord, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.

1 Ĉorinthians 16:33; 2 Timothy 2:1; Ephesians 6:10; Thessalonians 5:13-22; 1 Peter 2:17

\*Benediction

Postlude

"Lord, Enthroned in Heavenly Splendor" arr. by Lyle Leatherman



# Upcoming Church & Community events to add to your calendars: \*details on each event in your eNews\*

# Church Calendar

# Sunday, February 19th

9 am Pre-Lenten Breakfast 10 am Sunday Worship 11:15am Fellowship Hour, Choir Rehearsal, & Lent Book Study 7:30pm AA & Al-Anon meetings

Monday, February 20th Presidents' Day

Wednesday, February 22nd
\*Ash Wednesday\* See insert

Friday, February 24th 7pm AA Meeting

# Saturday, February 25th

5-6:30 pm Community Dinner (hamburgers/hotdogs/sides)
\*The Church Office will be closed 2/20-2/27

Thank you to these members who are helping with worship today-

AV: Bill Martz
Liturgist: Kathie Jacobs
Greeter & Fellowship: Linda Smith

# O Wondrous Sight, O Vision Fair

