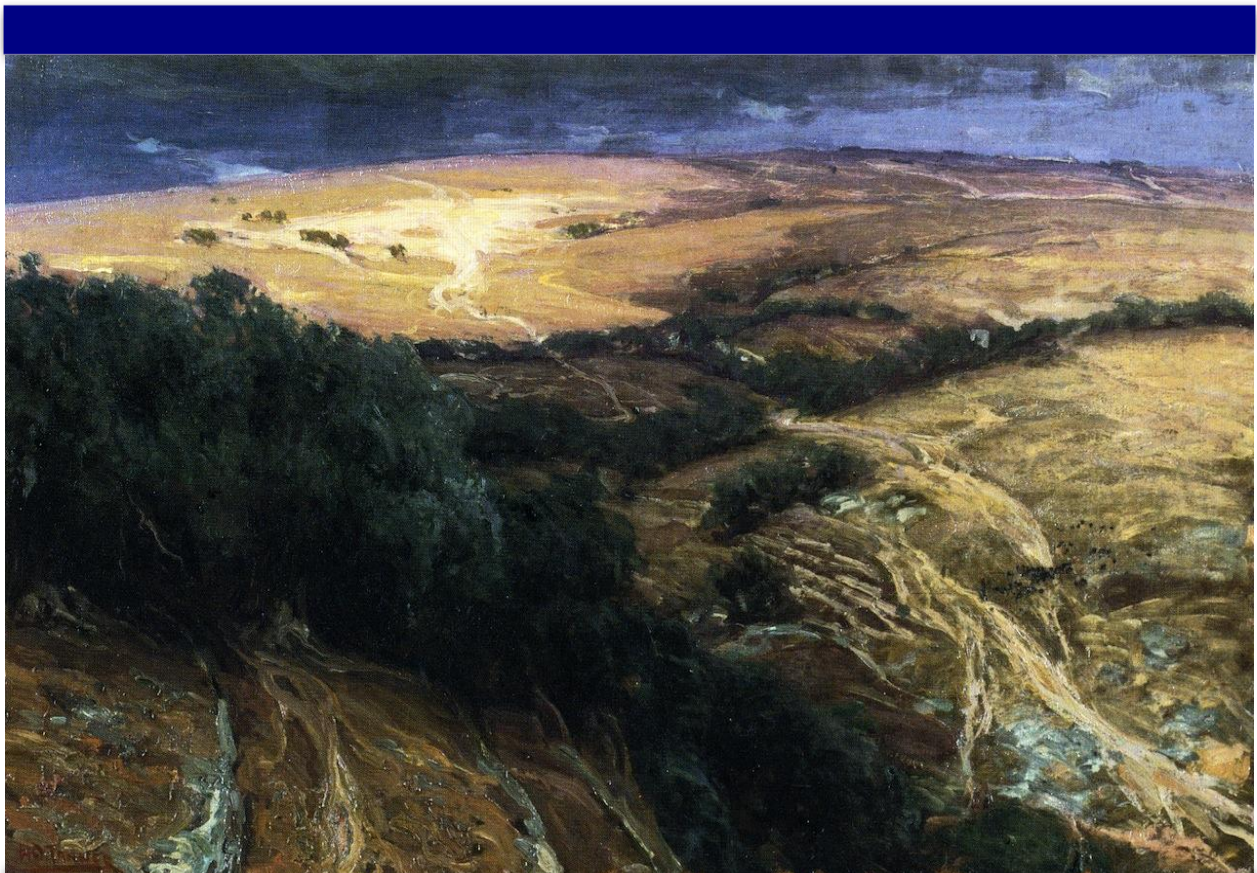




FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF  
**KIRKWOOD**

WELCOME TO WORSHIP  
February 15, 2026, at 11:00 a.m.  
Transfiguration of the Lord Sunday

**Mission:** We are called to be a welcoming and supportive community whose inspiring worship of God encourages everyone to deepen their faith and to respond to the needs of the world with the compassion of Christ.



*A View in Palestine*, by Henry Ossawa Tanner

# ORDER OF WORSHIP

\_\_\_\_\_ **\*Please rise in body or in spirit.** \_\_\_\_\_

## **Chiming of the Hour**

We encourage you to quiet your minds and hearts for worship at this time.

## **Welcome and Announcements**

Sign the Friendship Register at the end of your pew and pass it to your neighbor.

## **Organ Voluntary**

Prelude on 'Deep River'

Adolphus Hailstork

## **WE ADDRESS OURSELVES TO GOD**

### **\*Call to Worship**

Leader: Come, people of God, called into holy mystery, from ordinary days to sacred encounter.

**People: We come seeking God's presence, ready to listen and be changed.**

Leader: From cloud and fire, from shining glory, God speaks love over the beloved.

**People: We open our hearts to Christ's voice, trusting the light that leads us.**

Leader: As Lent draws near, the path turns inward and forward, from the mountaintop toward faithful living.

**People: Give us courage for the journey, to release what binds us and follow Christ.**

### **\*Processional Hymn**

Here In This Place

Hymn #401

### **\*Prayer of Confession** (Unison)

**Holy and Transforming God, You call us into your presence, yet we confess that we are hesitant to draw near. We confess that we prefer certainty to mystery, control to surrender, and comfort to transformation. Like the people at the foot of the mountain, we grow impatient in the waiting. Like the disciples on the mountaintop, we want to stay where glory is clear and demands are few. We confess that we resist the disciplines of Lent, honest self-examination, letting go, deep listening that exposes our fears and habits. We confess our complicity in systems that harm the**

**vulnerable, our silence when truth is costly, and our tendency to turn inward instead of toward love. Forgive us, O God. Meet us in cloud and fire, in shadow and light. Strip away what is false, and make room in us for Your transforming grace. Amen**

**\*Silent Confessions**

**\*Assurance of God's Grace**

**\*Response to Confession**      The Doxology      Hymn #606  
*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow. Praise God, all creatures here below.  
Praise God above, ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.*

**\*The Passing of the Peace**

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Leader: Let us share that peace with one another.

**A Conversation with Young Disciples**

All children are invited to come forward for the children's message.

**WE HEAR GOD'S WORD**

**Scripture Reading**      Exodus 24:12-18; Pew Bible, O.T., pg. 70

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**Anthem**      I Believe This Is Jesus      Undine Smith Moore  
*I believe this is Jesus, come and see. The Light of God shines in His face.  
He offers all His pardoning grace.*

**Scripture Reading**      Matthew 17:1-9; Pew Bible, N.T., pg. 18

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**Sermon**      Between The Mountain And The Way  
Rev'd. Gary Noonan

**WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD**

**\*Hymn**      Swiftly Pass the Clouds of Glory      Hymn #190

**Pastoral Prayer**

## The Lord's Prayer (Unison)

**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.**

## Offertory Sentences

**Offertory Anthem**      Prayer for Transfiguration Day      John Weaver  
*O God, in the transfiguration of Christ, your Son, you have confirmed the mystery of the faith by the testimony of the apostles. In the voice that came from the bright cloud you proclaimed him to be your Son, and told us to heed his teachings. O God, make us heirs with Christ, in his glory forevermore. Alleluia! Amen!*

## Prayer of Dedication

### WE DEPART TO SERVE THE LORD

**\*Closing Hymn**      To God Be the Glory      Hymn #634

## \*Benediction

**Choral Response**      The Lord Bless You and Keep You      John Rutter  
*The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face to shine upon you and be gracious unto you. The Lord lift up the light of His countenance upon you and give you peace. Amen.*

**Organ Voluntary**      Toccata on 'Great Day!'      Adolphus Hailstork

*February is Black History Month and we feature the music of two Black American composers today. Undine Smith Moore (1904-1989) was nicknamed 'The Dean of Black Women Composers' in America and received the Virginia Governor's Award in the Arts in 1985. Adolphus Hailstork (b. 1941) received his PhD in Composition from Michigan State University. He is now retired and living in Virginia.*

*"A View in Palestine" is a notable painting created by Henry Ossawa Tanner in 1899, reflecting the Realism art movement. Tanner, an African American artist, made two trips to Palestine, which greatly influenced his work. This particular piece captures the landscape of the region, showcasing Tanner's ability to blend natural beauty with cultural elements.*

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### **Worship Leaders:**

Rev'd. Gary Noonan, *Senior Pastor*  
Rev. Rachel Finken, *Associate Pastor*

### **Music Ministry:**

Bill Stein, *Director of Music Ministries*; Kevin Chunko, *Music Associate*; Chancel Choir

**Acolyte:** Eileen Kinslohr      **Cross Bearer:** Wyatt Butler

**Ushers:** Missy Wulff, John Becker, Terry McFarland, Charlene McFarland

**Usher Captain:** Bob Schneider      **Livestream Host:** Gary Hepp