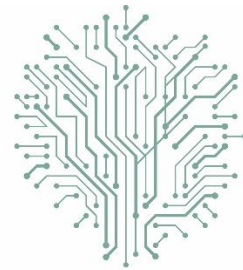


## Transfiguration

This is my son deserving of Alleluias  
Listen to him, come down and do for others  
Go now you must leave though it terrifies you  
Valleys await, and I will come down there with you

Though we cry,  
“Stay here with us, we’ll raise you the perfect dwelling  
Beyond compare befitting of all your glory  
Stay here with us, we’ll raise you the perfect dwelling  
And never leave this place,”  
but heaven’s voice cries out compelling...

By At Average



SALT BUSH

UNITING THE SCATTERED COMMUNITY

## Simple worship for the scattered Christian community

Matthew 17:1-9  
Transfiguration

### Welcome

We come to hear the Good News, to embody the love of God in Christ as we share our lives with others

### Lighting of Christ Candle

God’s truth is revealed in Jesus Christ the light of the world. May the light shine for the hope of the world.

### Responses & Gathering Prayer

Surprising God, whose love leads us to new experiences, help us to be open to your presence, to the sacred, among us and within. Let us sense your glory in the sights and sounds of this day. Confront us with your law of compassion, mercy and love. That our lives may more fully reflect your purposes. May your Spirit move us to speak of the light that you reveal. Amen

### Song

[Transfiguration](#) by At Average

<https://ataverage.bandcamp.com/track/transfiguration>

### Peace

The peace of the Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

You are invited to turn to those around you and offer them a word of greeting and peace.

## The Word around the Bush

Matthew 17

Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain, by themselves. <sup>2</sup>And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became dazzling white. <sup>3</sup>Suddenly there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him. <sup>4</sup>Then Peter said to Jesus, 'Lord, it is good for us to be here; if you wish, I will make three dwellings here, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.' <sup>5</sup>While he was still speaking, suddenly a bright cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud a voice said, 'This is my Son, the Beloved; with him I am well pleased; listen to him!' <sup>6</sup>When the disciples heard this, they fell to the ground and were overcome by fear. <sup>7</sup>But Jesus came and touched them, saying, 'Get up and do not be afraid.' <sup>8</sup>And when they looked up, they saw no one except Jesus himself alone. <sup>9</sup>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.'

## The Message

From your Scattered Community Minister or another leader within your gathering.

## Questions for conversation

- Where have you encountered the sacred in your life?
- As well as holy communion what other ways has your church encountered the sacred? How does your church celebrate these sacred moments?

## Silence

Spend some time in silence sitting still (suggested 5 minutes). Close your eyes lightly. Sit relaxed but alert.

## Prayers for Others

God of mountain tops and valleys, we love to celebrate your glory and be transfixed by your presence, we would want to remain in your radiance forever, yet you call us to go where you are also present; amongst the poor, the grieving, the anxious and the lost. (pause)

For those whose lives are given less value or respect because of gender, class, race or religion. **May we share your compassion and mercy.** (pause)  
For all your creation, the land, the animals, the oceans that are under threat because of our insatiable need for more. **May we honour your creation as we work for renewal.** (pause)  
We know you are with those who are experiencing difficult days in our communities, may we be free to share our lives with them, **an expression of your love in their midst.** (pause)  
In this time of silence we bring you our prayers.  
(pause)  
In Christ, Amen.

## Song for Reflection

[Resting in God](https://peterkearney.bandcamp.com/track/85-resting-in-god) by Peter Kearney  
<https://peterkearney.bandcamp.com/track/85-resting-in-god>

## Closing Responses & Blessing

We have been to the mountaintop, we have been in the presence of those who have gone before, and we have been changed.

Go now as transfigured people, endowed with understanding, strengthened by prayer, and empowered to live as children of God.

Go into a world that needs to know the warmth of God's presence, that the world might be transfigured in love and justice. Amen.

Bless us and the people we meet along the way  
Father, Son and Holy Spirit. **Amen**