

WORSHIP SERVICE
FEBRUARY 15, 2026, 10:00AM
TRANSFIGURATION SUNDAY

PRELUDE

Steal Away

Spiritual/arr. Harry T. Burleigh
Darren Anderson, tenor

*HYMN #12

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

Welsh melody

WORDS OF WELCOME AND COMMUNITY LIFE

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: We gather to worship God,

People: Who creates us and loves us;

Leader: Who gifts us with diversity and makes us for
community;

People: Who gives Jesus Christ to show us how to live;

Leader: Who inspires children, youth, young adults, and people
of all ages,

**People: To seek justice, share power, and live together in
love and equality;**

Leader: Who invites us to join the struggle for wholeness and
wellbeing for all,

**People: And whose presence, grace, and love sustain us in
our living.**

Leader: We gather to worship God.

All: To God be all glory, honor, and praise!

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

**We pray that You, O God, will bring a greater love for all
people into our hearts and minds, into our plans and actions,
and into our hope and prayers. Break the silence of prejudice,**

the isolation of ignorance, the false sense of security in earthly fortresses, and erase the fear that prevents communication. Help us to come home to Your love, by becoming one family on this planet we call home. Receive now the silent confessions of our hearts.

Silence

Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: We have seen the Light. We have heard the call. We have received God's forgiveness.

People: We will sing, rejoice and serve, in the Light. Praise God!

Leader: It is good news indeed, in Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

All: Alleluia! Amen!

PASSING OF THE PEACE

Leader: The Peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you

ANTHEM

He, Watching over Israel

Felix Mendelssohn

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Children ages Pre-K- Grade 3 recess to Smith Hall to meet their teachers for a Combined Class in Room 7.

*HYMN (*page 6 & 7*)

Majesty

Martin Smith/Stuart Garrard

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Psalm 2:4-8, Mark 1:9-11

Minister: The Word of God for the people of God.

All: Thanks be to God!

SERMON

“Crowned”

The Rev. Dr. Stephen Chapin Garner

SERMON RESPONSE

Balm in Gilead

Spiritual/arr. Harry T. Burleigh

Hannah Mikita, soprano

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

As a congregation, we pray together – through word, silence, and
The Lord's Prayer (sins)

PRAYER RESPONSE

Into My Heart

Harry D. Clarke

CALL TO OFFERING

Please pass the burgundy welcome books

OFFERTORY

How Firm a Foundation John Rippon/arr. Mack Wilberg

*DOXOLOGY (unison)

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

*HYMN #S31

My Faith Looks Up to Thee

Lowell Mason

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Scherzo

Alan Ridout

*Congregation please stand.

Today, we welcome our former Interim Director of Music Ministries, Dr. Michael Burnette, who is serving as our guest organist/choral leader in Nerva's absence.

Thank you to Rick Kilbride and Doug Simpson for hosting our fellowship time this morning. Please join us for coffee in Smith Hall immediately following the service.

The Disciples Deck Question:

Card 24: “Why do the nations conspire, and the peoples plot in vain?”

ARE YOU VISITING OUR CHURCH TODAY?

Welcome, and thank you for worshipping with us! If you have questions about our church or wish to join us for our next new member class, please contact Anna Rogers at (203) 274-0097 or welcoming@godsacre.org.

PRAYER SHAWL BLESSING

The prayer shawls displayed today were made with love and prayers by our Prayer Shawl Ministry. The shawls are given to those experiencing significant life challenges. During our prayers today, we ask for God's blessing on the shawls and pray for those who receive them. New members are always welcome. No experience is needed! For more information, contact Twee Haffner at tweehaffner@gmail.com or (203) 966-0606.

Majesty

Words and Music by
MARTIN SMITH and STUART GARRARD

♩ = 76

Verse

Am G Fmaj7 C/E Fmaj7

1. Here _____ I am, hum-bled by Your maj - es - ty, _____
 2. Here _____ I am, hum-bled by the love that You give, _____ for -

C/E G/B E7/G# Am G Fmaj7

cov-ered by Your grace so _____ free. _____ Here _____ I _____ am,
 giv - en so that I can for - give. _____ Here _____ I _____ stand,

C/E Fmaj7 C/E G/B E7/G#

know-ing I'm a sin-ful man _____ cov-ered by the blood of the Lamb. _____ }
 know-ing that I'm Your de - sire, _____ sanc - ti - fied by glo - ry and fire. _____ }

Chorus

Am G/B C Am G/B

Now I've found the great-est love of all _____ is

C D/F# F

mine since You laid down Your life, _____ the great-est sac - ri - fice. _____

Chorus

C G Am F

Maj - es - ty, _____ maj - es - ty; _____

{ 1.2. Your
 3.4. For -

C G ^{1.} Am F

grace has found me just as I am, — emp-ty hand-ed, but a-live in Your hands. —
 ev - er I am changed by Your love — in the

^{2.} Am F D. ^{3.} 4. Am

hand-ed, but a - live in Your hands. — Sing-ing pres-ence } of Your maj - es - ty. —
 beau-ty }

To Coda ⊕ Fmaj7 Am G F

Chorus Am G F C G

Sing-ing maj - es - ty, —

Am F C

maj - es - ty; — Your grace has found me just as I am: —

G Am F *D. ^{3.} 4. al Coda*

— and I'm noth-ing but a - live in Your hands. — Sing-ing

Coda ⊕ C G Am F

NEWS OF THE CONGREGATION

65 PLEDGES TO GO!

If you have not yet pledged, we hope that you will be able to make your commitment by our Annual Meeting on March 1. You may pledge using the QR code on the back of your bulletin.

ANNUAL MEETING – SUNDAY, MARCH 1

The Annual Meeting of the Congregation will be held on Sunday, March 1, at 11:15am in the Meeting House. The agenda includes the Deacon's State of the Church, the Trustee's Report, the 250th Fund Request, Raymond Trust, and Nominating and Governance. All members are encouraged to attend and participate in this important conversation. A link to attend virtually will be sent on February 27. Contact Lonnie deMarco at lonnie@godsacre.org for more information.

ASH WEDNESDAY COMMUNION SERVICE

Ash Wednesday, February 18, begins Lent, calling us to reflection and renewal. Join us for a communion service at **8:00pm in the Chapel** to mark this sacred season.

COMBINED CHURCH SCHOOL CLASS – TODAY

We will offer a Combined Church School Class in Room 7 for children ages 3-3rd grade. Grades 4 through 7 will remain in the Meeting House for the duration of the service. Nursery care will be provided for children 3 and under. Pick up will be in Room 7.

DEDICATE A FLOWER ARRANGEMENT FOR SUNDAY WORSHIP

Dedicate a floral arrangement to remember someone special who has passed away or who is celebrating a special birthday, anniversary, or graduation. Please contact Tracy Goldman at office@godsacre.org to choose a date and discuss color preference. A suggested donation of \$100 is greatly appreciated.

FEBRUARY PLATE OFFERING

The February plate offering will go towards Open Doors, a local housing and homeless service organization. With your support, we can help our neighbors on the path to housing stability.

LENTEN WORKSHOP: A JOURNEY OF CONNECTION & PURPOSE

Join the Mental Health Ministry Team this Lent as we explore the concept of “mattering” through a faith lens. Offered in person and virtually, 7:00-8:30pm, February 25, March 3, 11, and 25. To sign up or learn more, contact Martha Palmer at marthapalmer76@yahoo.com.

MIDNIGHT BREAKFAST RUN – DONATIONS NEEDED

We’re collecting items for our upcoming Midnight Run on February 28 with this year’s Confirmation Class. Please donate winter coats, sweaters, and sweatshirts (L or XL, men’s and women’s), as well as new T-shirts, underwear (L or XL), and heavy socks. Donation bins will be in Smith Hall until February 27. Your donations are appreciated and will be most welcome during this harsh winter.

PACIFIC HOUSE HOMELESS SHELTER – VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Once a month (every third Thursday), our church provides and serves dinner at the Pacific House Homeless Shelter in Stamford. Volunteers are needed to both contribute food items and serve a hot meal to approximately 60 men residing at the shelter. Contact Andy Parkin at andyparkin7@gmail.com for details on how to help.

PRAYER SHAWL – NEW KNITTERS ARE WELCOMED & NEEDED!

Join the Prayer Shawl Ministry on the second and fourth Monday of each month from 10:30am–12:00pm in the Parlor. We gather to knit, enjoy fellowship, and create prayer shawls that are later blessed and shared with those in need of comfort and God’s love. No knitting experience? No problem! We’ll provide yarn and happily teach you the basics. Contact Twee Haffner at tweehaffner@gmail.com to sign up.

SPRING 2026 NEW MEMBER CLASS

Interested in joining our family of faith? Sign up for our spring new member sessions to meet our leaders and learn about the traditions that have shaped life on God's Acre. Contact Anna Rogers at welcoming@godsacre.org by March 15.

New Member Orientation Class

Sunday, March 22, 11:15am-1:15pm

New Member Faith Sharing Class:

Wednesday, March 25, 7:00-9:00pm

New Member Sunday:

Sunday, March 29, 9:00-11:00am

WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP CAKE AND COFFEE

Ladies, join us Tuesday, March 3, at 9:30am at the Park Street Parsonage for cake, coffee, and camaraderie. Enjoy fresh coffee, light refreshments, and relaxed fellowship. Check your inbox for more details. If you would like to bake, contact Lesley Cousley at lacousley@gmail.com.

YOUTH MINISTRIES & CHILDREN'S CHOIRS

There is no youth programming this week. Youth programs will resume the week of February 22. For any questions, please contact Greer Lyle at greer@godsacre.org.

PARTICIPATING IN WORSHIP:

The Rev. Dr. Stephen Chapin Garner

Senior Minister

Marianna Kilbride

Director of Spiritual Formation

Greer Lyle

*Director of Youth Ministries and
Children's Music*

Michael Burnette

Guest Organist

Hannah Mikita, soprano

Soloist

DEACON OF THE MONTH

David Beck

We are a welcoming, inclusive and compassionate church community where difference and diversity are valued. We gather to promote the love and knowledge of the God revealed in Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior, Redeemer and Friend, and welcome all to participate in the life of our church regardless of race, color, religion, gender, gender expression, age, national origin, ability, marital status, or sexual orientation.

We invite you to make your pledge today.

