



FAIRLAWN

Connect with what matters in life.



**Fairlawn Avenue United Church
Sunday, March 2, 2025 10:30am
Transfiguration Sunday**

**Rev. Dr. Ambury Stuart
Eleanor Daley, Director of Music
Fairlawn Avenue Senior Choir**

2.

*Indicates when the congregation is to stand, as able.

Congregational responses, singing and readings in unison are indicated in **bold text**.

Welcome and Acknowledgement

Gathering Words

***Processional Hymn** How Good, Lord, to Be Here

VU #103

**How good, Lord, to be here!
Your glory fills the night;
your face and garments, like the sun,
shine with unborrowed light.**

**How good, Lord, to be here,
your beauty to behold,
where Moses and Elijah stand,
your messengers of old.**

**Fulfiller of the past
and hope of things to be,
we hail your body glorified,
and our redemption see!**

**Before we taste of death,
we see your kingdom come:
we long to hold the vision bright
and make this hill our home!**

**How good, Lord, to be here!
Yet we may not remain;
but, since you bid us leave the mount,
come with us to the plain.**

***Call To Worship**

The world belongs to God.

The earth and all its people.

How good it is, how wonderful

to live together in harmony.

Love and faith come together,

justice and peace join hands.

If Christ's disciples keep silent,
these stones would shout aloud.
 Open our lips, O God,
and our mouths shall proclaim your praise.

Lighting of the Christ Candle

Open your hearts to the light of God's presence.
We will walk in the light.
 Jesus Christ is the light of the world.
Thanks be to God.

Opening Prayer

Introit

Extol the Lord Our God

E.Daley

Extol the Lord our God,
 and worship at the holy mountain,
 for the Lord our God is holy.
 (Psalm 99:9)

Sharing Peace

Anthem

Jesus on the Mountain Peak

Cyril Vincent Taylor (1907-1991)/E. Daley

Jesus on the mountain peak
 stands alone in glory blazing;
 let us, if we dare to speak,
 join the saints and angels praising:
 Hallelujah!

Trembling at his feet we saw
 Moses and Elijah speaking.
 All the prophets and the law
 shout through them their joyful greeting:
 Hallelujah!

Swift the cloud of glory came,
 God proclaiming, in its thunder,
 Jesus as the Son by name!
 Nations cry aloud in wonder:
 Hallelujah!

4. This is God's beloved son!
Law and prophets sing before him,
first and last and only One.
All creation shall adore him!
Hallelujah!
(Brian Wren, b. 1936)

Sermon

Mountain Top Experiences in Chaotic Times
(Includes the reading of Luke 9:28-36 NRSV)

Rev. Dr. Ambury Stuart

Now about eight days after these sayings Jesus took with him Peter and John and James, and went up on the mountain to pray. And while he was praying, the appearance of his face changed, and his clothes became dazzling white. Suddenly they saw two men, Moses and Elijah, talking to him. They appeared in glory and were speaking of his departure, which he was about to accomplish at Jerusalem. Now Peter and his companions were weighed down with sleep; but since they had stayed awake, they saw his glory and the two men who stood with him. Just as they were leaving him, Peter said to Jesus, 'Master, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah'—not knowing what he said. While he was saying this, a cloud came and overshadowed them; and they were terrified as they entered the cloud. Then from the cloud came a voice that said, 'This is my Son, my Chosen; listen to him!' When the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone. And they kept silent and in those days told no one any of the things they had seen.

***Hymn**

We Have Come at Christ's Own Bidding

VU #104

**We have come at Christ's own bidding
to this high and holy place,
where we wait with hope and longing
for some token of God's grace.
Here we pray for new assurance
that our faith is not in vain,
searching like those first disciples
for a sign both clear and plain.**

**Light breaks forth upon our darkness;
splendour bathes the flesh-joined Word;
Moses and Elijah marvel
as the heavenly voice is heard.
Eyes and hearts behold with wonder
how the Law and Prophets meet:
Christ, with garments drenched in brightness,
stands transfigured and complete.**

**Strengthened by this glimpse of glory,
fearful lest our faith decline,
we like Peter find it tempting
to remain and build a shrine.
But true worship gives us courage
to proclaim what we profess,
that our daily lives may prove us
people of the God we bless.**

Introduction of Offering

Offertory Anthem Christ Whose Glory Fills the Skies

E. Daley

Christ whose glory fills the skies,
Christ the true, the only light,
sun of righteousness, arise,
triumph o'er the shades of night.
Dayspring from on high be near;
daystar, in my heart appear.

Dark and cheerless is the morn
unaccompanied by Thee;
joyless is the day's return
till Thy mercy's beams I see;
till they inward light impart,
glad my eyes, and warm my heart.

Visit then this soul of mine,
pierce the gloom of sin and grief;
fill me, radiance divine,
scatter all my unbelief;
more and more Thyself display,
shining to the perfect day.
(Charles Wesley, 1707-1788)

***Presentation of the Offering**

**In gratitude and humble trust we bring our best today,
to serve your cause and share your love with all along life's way.
O God, who gave yourself to us in Jesus Christ, your Son,
teach us to give ourselves each day until life's work is done.**

Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer

(New Zealand Prayer Book)

**Eternal Spirit,
 Earth-maker, Pain-bearer, Life-giver,
 Source of all that is and that shall be,
 Father and Mother of us all,
 Loving God, in whom is Heaven:**

**The hallowing of your name echo through the universe!
 The way of your justice be followed by the peoples of the world!
 Your Heavenly will be done by all created beings!
 Your commonwealth of peace and freedom sustain our hope
 and come on Earth.**

**With the bread we need for today, feed us.
 In the hurts we absorb from one another, forgive us.
 In times of temptation and testing, strengthen us.
 From trials too great to endure, spare us.
 From the grip of all that is evil, free us.**

**For you reign in the glory of the power that is love,
 now and forever. Amen.**

***Recessional Hymn** Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

VU #651

**Guide me, O thou great Jehovah,
 pilgrim through this barren land.
 I am weak, but thou art mighty,
 hold me with thy powerful hand.
 Bread of heaven, bread of heaven,
 feed me till I want no more,
 feed me till I want no more.**

**Open now the crystal fountain,
 whence the healing stream doth flow;
 let the fire and cloudy pillar
 lead me all my journey through.
 Strong deliverer, strong deliverer,
 be thou still my strength and shield,
 be thou still my strength and shield.**

**When I tread the verge of Jordan,
bid my anxious fears subside;
death of death, and hell's destruction,
land me safe on Canaan's side:
songs of praises, songs of praises
I will ever give to thee,
I will ever give to thee.**

*Blessing

This is the day that God has made;
we will rejoice and be glad in it.
We will not offer to God
gifts that cost us nothing.
Go in peace to love and serve;
we will seek peace and pursue it.
In the name of the Trinity of Love,
God in community, holy and one.

*Choral Commissioning

E. Daley

(The choir will sing through once, and then the congregation is invited to join in.)

**May God's love surround you,
may God's wisdom guide you,
may God's light shine upon you,
until we meet again.**

Postlude

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Grab a cup of tea or coffee from Coffee Hour and join Ambury in a gathering near the chancel steps for a post-service discussion. Ask questions, share insights on the sermon, the scripture reading and anything else. This is a rich opportunity to gather, talk and learn.

Your ongoing support is greatly appreciated. Scan the QR code with your phone or visit www.fairlawnchurch.ca/donate-now/ for the various ways you can donate and support the ministries and work of Fairlawn Avenue United Church. Thank you.



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The Senior Choir of Fairlawn Avenue
Eleanor Daley, Director of Music

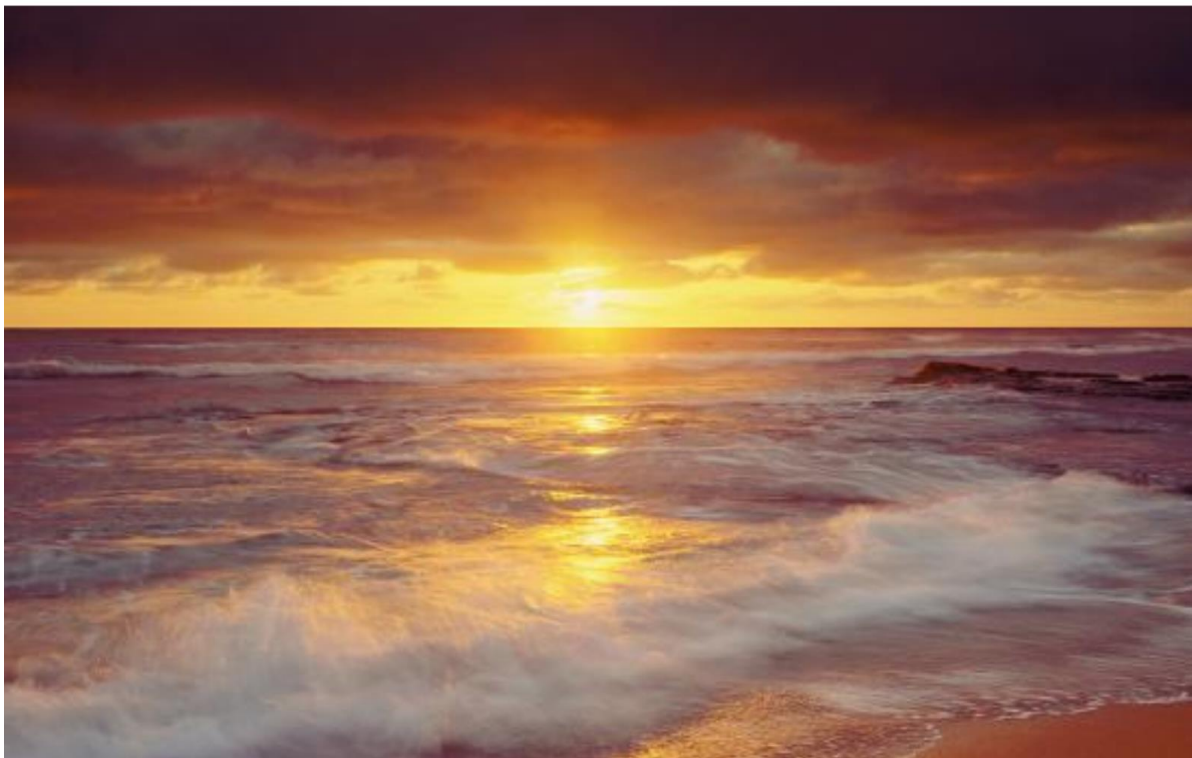
presents

Requiem

by K. Lee Scott

with

Chamber Orchestra



Sunday, March 30 at 10:30am