

Worship at Home – 15 February 2026

A short act of worship on Transfiguration Sunday, for use in people's homes,
prepared by Mary Armstrong.

Introduction

Jesus takes Peter, James and John up a mountain where they see a vision of Jesus' heavenly glory in the presence of Moses and Elijah, and they hear a voice that confirms Jesus' identity as God's Son.

When we hear about the transfiguration of Jesus we may regret missing such an encounter. If only it would happen today! This week, we will be thinking about how close God often comes to us if we are open to knowing he is near. And that is something worth sharing!

(Let's continue in prayer)

Opening prayers

Let us draw near to our awesome God.
We bring our praise and adoration.
We bring ourselves, our memories and our hopes,
in expectation of meeting with our Lord,
whose presence is all around us.
In Jesus, God is with us.

Lord, our God, let us see your glory.
Help us to lift our eyes to you,
open our ears to hear your voice.
You gave your message to prophets throughout history;
you give us your Holy Spirit for the present.
And you have given us Jesus, your Son,
to lead us into eternity with you.
Lord, we see, we hear, we believe, and we come to worship.

Amen.

Hymn: Singing the Faith 18¹ Be still and Be still and know that I am God...

- | | | |
|---|--|---|
| 1 | Be still and know that I am God.
Be still and know that I am God.
Be still and know that I am God. | heals.
I am the Lord who saves and
heals. |
| 2 | I am the Lord who saves and
heals.
I am the Lord who saves and | 3 In you, O Lord, I put my trust.
In you, O Lord, I put my trust.
In you, O Lord, I put my trust. |

Anonymous

Based on Psalm 46:10-11

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Words: ©

Prayer of confession

Transforming God,
we come to the foot of your cross
and say sorry when we don't listen.
We are sorry when we miss you in the midst of our lives,
when we fail to glimpse you,
even when you are shining so bright before us.
We are sorry when we are afraid and don't trust you,
when we fall asleep, absorbed in our own lives,
when we make our own conclusions and don't involve you,
when we think we know best.
Help us to always seek refuge in you,
to be transformed by your brightness,
and draw closer to you.

Amen.

Assurance of forgiveness

Awesome God,
we are your beloved and our home is in you.
We are forgiven and transformed into your likeness.
You make us whole.

Amen.

A prayer of praise and thanksgiving

O Morning Star,
we thank you that we can be completely changed by you.
We thank you that you have called us to yourself
to be transformed and made whole.
Thank you that we can draw aside and
spend time in your presence,
worshipping you and praising you for your love.
You transform us day by day.
You draw us closer to you,
so that we can shine bright and be your children of light.
O Morning Star, we praise you!

Amen.

Bible reading: Matthew 17:1-9

The Transfiguration

¹ After six days Jesus took with him Peter, James and John the brother of James, and led them up a high mountain by themselves. ² There he was transfigured before them. His face shone like the sun, and his clothes became as white as the light. ³ Just then there appeared before them Moses and Elijah, talking with Jesus.

⁴ Peter said to Jesus, “Lord, it is good for us to be here. If you wish, I will put up three shelters—one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah.”

⁵ While he was still speaking, a bright cloud covered them, and a voice from the cloud said, “This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased. Listen to him!”

⁶ When the disciples heard this, they fell facedown to the ground, terrified. ⁷ But Jesus came and touched them. “Get up,” he said. “Don’t be afraid.” ⁸ When they looked up, they saw no one except Jesus.

⁹ As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus instructed them, “Don’t tell anyone what you have seen, until the Son of Man has been raised from the dead.”

Hymn Singing the Faith 519² *Father I place into your hands...*

1 Father, I place into your hands
the things I cannot do.
Father, I place into your hands
the times that I've been through.
Father, I place into your hands
the way that I should go,
for I know I always can trust you.

2 Father, I place into your hands
my friends and family.
Father, I place into your hands
the things that trouble me.
Father, I place into your hands
the person I would be,
for I know I always can trust you.

3 Father, we love to see your face,
we love to hear your voice.
Father, we love to sing your praise
and in your name rejoice.
Father, we love to walk with you
and in your presence rest,
for we know we always can trust
you.

4 Father, I want to be with you
and do the things you do.
Father, I want to speak the words
that you are speaking too.
Father, I want to love the ones
that you will draw to you,
for I know that I am one with you.

Jenny Hewer (b. 1945)

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Reflection on the reading

The mountaintop moments in Scripture often hold a kind of sacred drama: burning bushes, commandments carved in stone, divine whispers in the silence. But the Transfiguration is something else entirely.

Here, on the mountain, Jesus is suddenly radiant, his face shining like the sun, his clothes dazzling white. And standing beside him are Moses and Elijah: the lawgiver and the prophet, symbols of a deep and ancient faith.

For a moment, the disciples (Peter, James, and John) see with new eyes. They see Jesus not just as a teacher or healer, but as something more: as the meeting point between heaven and earth. As the one who holds the wisdom of the past and the hope of the future in his very being.

Peter, overwhelmed, wants to build something to contain the moment. He wants to stay in the glory. But then a voice from the cloud interrupts:

“This is my Son, the Beloved... listen to him.”

Not look at him, not worship the moment, but listen to him.

It’s a command that pulls the disciples, and us, back to the heart of discipleship.

This passage is a reminder that faith isn’t about clinging to spiritual highs or spiritual certainty, but about learning to listen, carefully, prayerfully, continually, to the voice of Christ. And that voice often leads us back down the mountain. Into the messy, hurting, beautiful world we’re called to love.

Jesus doesn’t stay on the mountaintop. He returns to the crowds, the questions, the conflict, and the cross. The dazzling moment fades, but the journey continues. And that’s where transformation takes root: not in the extraordinary, but in how we live the ordinary with compassion, courage, and grace.

So today, let’s ask ourselves:

- Where are the mountaintop moments in our own lives, those times of clarity, wonder, or insight?

- How might we be tempted to stay there, instead of bringing what we've seen back down into our relationships, our work, our community?

- What might it look like to truly listen to Jesus in this season, not just with our ears, but with our lives?

The voice from the cloud didn't say "understand him" or "agree with him in every detail." It said listen. That kind of listening is active and transformative.

Lord, may we climb when we need to, descend when we must, and follow Christ with open hearts and attentive spirits, trusting that the light we glimpse on the mountain is meant to guide us in the valleys, too.

Amen

Prayers for ourselves and for the world.

There is a response:

We thank you, Lord,
that Jesus is near to everyone.

We pray for people who live in situations where God seems far away. We think of those living in war zones and other areas of conflict, and also those who have left their country and sought refuge elsewhere.

We thank you, Lord,
that Jesus is near to everyone.

We pray for people who are persecuted for their beliefs, and are unable to express them openly.

We pray, Lord, that you will fill them with your strength and courage. We thank you, Lord,
that Jesus is near to everyone.

We pray for those who are sick, that they will quietly feel your awesome presence in their times of suffering, that you will bring healing to them.

(own prayers)
We thank you, Lord,
that Jesus is near to everyone.

We pray for those who have lost people they love, those whose hearts are broken in so many pieces that they think they will never mend.

We thank you, Lord,
that Jesus is near to everyone.

Let us say **The Lord's Prayer** together.
Our Father in heaven
Hallowed be your Name
Your kingdom comes
Your will be done
On earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
As we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
And deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power and the glory
are yours, Now and for ever.
Amen

Hymn: Singing the Faith 82³ *O Lord my God when I in awesome wonder...*

1 O Lord, my God, when I in
awesome wonder
 consider all the works thy hand
hath made,
 I see the stars, I hear the mighty
thunder,
 thy power throughout the
universe displayed :
 *Then sings my soul, my Saviour
God, to thee :*
 *how great thou art, how great
thou art !*
 *Then sings my soul, my Saviour
God, to thee :*
 *how great thou art, how great
thou art !*

2 When through the woods and
forest glades I wander
 and hear the birds sing sweetly in
the trees ;

 when I look down from lofty
mountain grandeur,
 and hear the brook, and feel the
gentle breeze :
3 And when I think that God, his
Son not sparing,
 sent him to die, I scarce can take it
in
 that on the cross, my burden
gladly bearing,
 he bled and died to take away my
sin :
4 When Christ shall come with
shout of acclamation
 and take me home — what joy
shall fill my heart ;
 then shall I bow in humble
adoration,
 and there proclaim : my God, how
great thou art :

Stuart K. Hine (1899–1989)
vv. 1, 2, 4 based on *O store Gud* 1885 by
Carl Gustaf Boberg (1859–1940)

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Blessing

May you glimpse the glory of God as you journey through this week.
May you experience the mystery of God as you live out your faith this week.
May you know the blessing of God as you fulfil your responsibilities this week.
And may you believe that you are known and loved by God at all times this week.
And may the blessing of God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit be with us and those we
love, today and always.

Amen

1. Anonymous, based on Psalm 46:10-11
2. Jenny Hewer (b.1945) © 1975 Thankyou Music.
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