The United Methodist Church at Absecon

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What is Transformation?

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Today's Lay Reader: David Wade

Welcome

Prelude Faith of Our Fathers arr. Albin C. Whitworth

Call to Worship

Leader: Come! Come from our sanctuary or from your home. Come at

11 AM on Sunday or any time during the week. Come

whenever and wherever you are. Come! Worship is called in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit!

People: We come, ready to be transformed!

Leader: We come, ready to transform others, and the world!

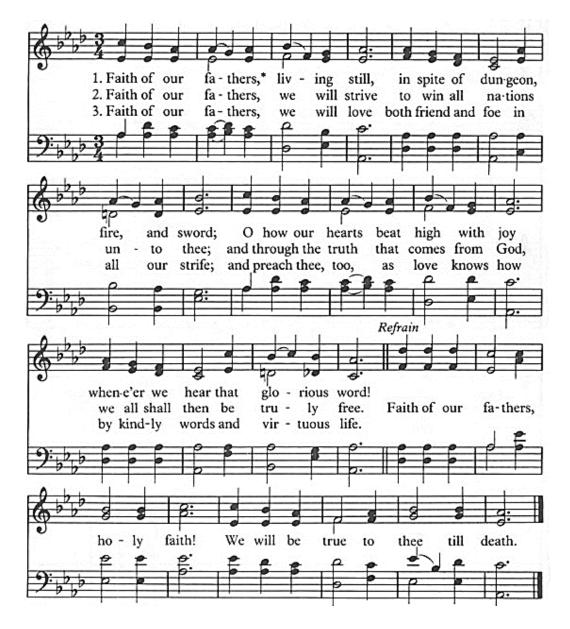
People: What is transformation, and how do we achieve it? With

God's grace, our own faith and help from other Christians

we can do this!

Hymn

Faith of Our Fathers



Opening Prayer

Almighty God, as United Methodists, our mission is to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. We know we can't do that our own. We need each other. And most importantly, we need you. Transform us, we pray, so that we can transform others. And together, we all can transform the world around us. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen!

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

Chorus Thou Art Worthy (sing twice)

Thou art worthy, Thou art worthy, O Lord To receive glory, glory and honor, glory and honor and power. For Thou hast created, hast all things created, for Thou hast created all things. And for Thy pleasure they are created. Thou art worthy, O Lord.

Women's Chorus

I Should Have Been Crucified

Gordon Jensen

Young Disciples Chatting with the Rev

Scripture Lesson

Acts 9:3-19

Now as he was going along and approaching Damascus, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. He fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, "Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?" He asked, "Who are you, Lord?" The reply came, "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. But get up and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do." The men who were traveling with him stood speechless because they heard the voice but saw no one. Saul got up from the ground, and though his eyes were open, he could see nothing; so they led him by the hand and brought him into Damascus. For three days he was without sight and neither ate nor drank.

Now there was a disciple in Damascus named Ananias. The Lord said to him in a vision, "Ananias." He answered, "Here I am, Lord." The Lord said to him, "Get up and go to the street called Straight, and at the house of Judas look for a man of Tarsus named Saul. At this moment he is praying, and he has seen in a vision a man named Ananias come in and lay his hands on him so that he might regain his sight." But Ananias answered, "Lord, I have heard from many about this man, how much evil he has done to your saints in Jerusalem, and here he has authority from the chief priests to bind all who invoke your name." But the Lord said to him, "Go, for he is an instrument whom I have chosen to bring my name before gentiles and kings and before the people of Israel; I myself will show him how much he must suffer for the sake of my name." So Ananias went and entered the house. He laid his hands on Saul and said, "Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, who appeared to you on your way here, has sent me so that you may regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit." And immediately something like scales fell from his eyes, and his sight was restored. Then he got up and was baptized, and after taking some food, he regained his strength.

Leader: The Word of God for the people of God

People: Thanks be to God

Message

What is Transformation?

Offering Ourselves and Our Gifts to God

Offertory Larghetto George F. Handel

Doxology Praise God, from Whom all blessings flow;

Praise Him, all creatures here below: Alleluia! Alleluia!

Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;

Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost: Alleluia! Alleluia!

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Hymn

Trust and Obey





Benediction

Postlude Toccatina Carl Simone