

# Bouquet Caboodle



Highland Lectionary Series

February 15, 2026

## “Transfiguration”

Exodus 24:12-18; Psalm 2; 2 Peter 1:16-20;  
Matthew 17:1-9

### Today’s Big Idea

*The transfiguration of Jesus is a display of kingdom come in the midst of the mystery of suffering.*

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#### **Context: The Transfiguration Speaks to Death and to the Kingdom of God**

Peter’s declaration that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the Living God: Matthew 16:16, et al.  
The first foretelling of His death (to be followed by two more): Matthew 16:21, et al.  
Get behind me, Satan! Matthew 16:23, et al. (not Luke)  
The call to lose your life for Jesus: Matthew 16:24, et al.  
Some will not see death until they see Jesus in His kingdom: Matthew 16:28, et al.

#### **Key Observations of the Moment Itself**

On a mountain (Exodus 19), glowing face (and clothes)(Exodus 34:29), the cloud of God (Exodus 19:16)  
Peter’s offer to build three tents (evocative of the 40 day stay on the mountain: (Exodus 34:28)  
The presence of Elijah and Moses (representatives of the Law and the Prophets)  
Only Luke describes the subject of conversation: **His departure** (exodus)  
The declaration of belovedness (a link to Jesus’ baptism and its overtones of dying and rising)  
Do not tell anyone about this until the resurrection. Not a counterweight but a translation.

#### **Parallel to the Garden of Gethsemane (Transfiguration the Sequel):** see Luke 22:39-49, et al.

Same companions, mount, supernatural companion,  
Repeat of the sleepiness and the distance  
Transfiguration: sweat to blood

#### **The Meaning of the Transfiguration in Light of All of These Observations**

Jesus is fulfilling the Old Testament and bringing the kingdom of God  
By means of, not in spite of, the imminent suffering (not over suffering but through suffering)  
God ascends by descending: Ephesians 4:9-10  
The Mount of Transfiguration and the Garden of Gethsemane are two sides of the same coin

#### **The “Counter-Transfiguration” in the Gospel of John:** John 12:20-35

Look how John can talk about the glory of Christ many years later  
The cross as Jesus’ glorification: John 12:23,28, 32  
Parallel of losing your life to find it: John 12:25  
The voice of God: John 12:28-30  
The high place (instead of a mountain, now a cross): John 12:32  
The Law (Moses) bears witness to the light of Jesus: John 12:34-36

## The Key Excerpts for This Week's Thematic Thread:

<i>Exodus 24:12-18</i>	<i>Psalm 2</i>	<i>2 Peter 1:16-20</i>	<i>Matthew 17:1-9</i>
<p>12 The Lord said to Moses, "Come up to me on the mountain and wait there; I will give you the tablets of stone, with the law and the commandment, which I have written for their instruction." 13 So Moses set out with his assistant Joshua, and Moses went up onto the mountain of God. 14 To the elders he had said, "Wait here for us, until we come back to you. Look, Aaron and Hur are with you; whoever has a dispute may go to them." 15 Then Moses went up on the mountain, and the cloud covered the mountain. 16 The glory of the Lord settled on Mount Sinai, and the cloud covered it for six days; on the seventh day he called to Moses out of the cloud. 17 Now the appearance of the glory of the Lord was like a devouring fire on the top of the mountain in the sight of the Israelites. 18 Moses entered the cloud and went up on the mountain. Moses was on the mountain for forty days and forty nights.</p>	<p>1 Why do the nations conspire and the peoples plot in vain? 2 The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel together, against the Lord and his anointed, saying, 3 "Let us burst their bonds apart and cast their cords from us." 4 He who sits in the heavens laughs; the Lord has them in derision. 5 Then he will speak to them in his wrath and terrify them in his fury, saying, 6 "I have set my king on Zion, my holy hill." 7 I will tell of the decree of the Lord: He said to me, "You are my son; today I have begotten you. 8 Ask of me, and I will make the nations your heritage and the ends of the earth your possession. 9 You shall break them with a rod of iron and dash them in pieces like a potter's vessel." 10 Now therefore, O kings, be wise; be warned, O rulers of the earth. 11 Serve the Lord with fear; with trembling 12 kiss his feet, or he will be angry, and you will perish in the way, for his wrath is quickly kindled.</p>	<p>16 For we did not follow cleverly devised myths when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we had been eyewitnesses of his majesty. 17 For he received honor and glory from God the Father when that voice was conveyed to him by the Majestic Glory, saying, "This is my Son, my Beloved, with whom I am well pleased." 18 We ourselves heard this voice come from heaven, while we were with him on the holy mountain. 19 So we have the prophetic message more fully confirmed. You will do well to be attentive to this as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts. 20 First of all you must understand this, that no prophecy of scripture is a matter of one's own interpretation,</p>	<p>Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain, by themselves. 2 And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became bright as light. 3 Suddenly there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him. 4 Then Peter said to Jesus, "Lord, it is good for us to be here; if you wish, I will set up three tents here, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." 5 While he was still speaking, suddenly a bright cloud overshadowed them, and a voice from the cloud said, "This is my Son, the Beloved; with him I am well pleased; listen to him!" 6 When the disciples heard this, they fell to the ground and were overcome by fear. 7 But Jesus came and touched them, saying, "Get up and do not be afraid." 8 And when they raised their eyes, they saw no one except Jesus himself alone. 9 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."</p>

### Next Week's Readings: What thread do you discern?

February 22, 2026 - First Sunday of Lent - Genesis 2:15-17, 3:1-7; Psalm 32; Romans 5:12-19; Matthew 4:1-11