

# Witherspoon Street Presbyterian Church

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Website: [www.witerspoonchurch.org](http://www.witerspoonchurch.org)

Rev. M. Muriel Burrows, Pastor

Beverly Owens, Music Director

Rev. Dr. Louise Johnson, Director of Christian Education

Amy Shortt, Organist

David Shedden, Seminary Intern

Cecelia B. Hodges, Verse Speaking Choir Director

Barbara Flythe, Lector

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February 18, 2007

10:00 a.m.

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## Transfiguration of the Lord

*Enter Reverently, Meditate Quietly, Worship Devoutly,  
Leave Gratefully, Serve Christ Faithfully*

### PRELUDE

### INTROIT

*I Was Glad*

Barnett

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### WORDS OF WELCOME AND CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God,  
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**People: And also with you.**

Leader: We gather to worship the living God whose glory is revealed to us in the  
stars and the sun.

**People: We gather to worship the eternal God whose power is seen in the  
spinning of the planets and in the fathomless depths of outer space.**

Leader: We gather to worship the loving God, whose righteousness is revealed  
in Christ Jesus, who died for us that we might live.

**People: We gather to worship the holy God, whose glory is revealed in the  
Risen Christ and imparted to us by the Spirit that makes us one.**

**All: *Let us worship the living, loving God!***

### PRAYER OF APPROACH

**All: Holy and Eternal God, you know our need for your love to warm our  
hearts, for your word to guide us, for your Spirit to sustain us, for  
your presence to make us whole. Help us to wait upon you now with  
penitent and believing hearts – help us to hear your word, to see your  
glory, to feel your touch, and then to follow in the way the Spirit  
directs us. We ask all these things in the name of Christ Jesus our  
Lord. Amen.**

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PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Leader: Lord Jesus Christ, through the freedom of your Spirit, we can relate to you with unveiled faces – radiating your glory and your love not only through our words and our deeds, but through our expression and our disposition. We confess, however, that our attitudes can conceal rather than reveal you.

**People: If we conceal your love because our eyes are veiled through prejudice and tolerance, forgive us, Lord.**

Leader: If we conceal your glory by reflecting our self-centeredness, forgive us Lord.

**People: If we conceal your truth through our lack of credible witness, forgive us, Lord.**

Leader: If we conceal your justice through our failure to empower those who are powerless, forgive us, Lord.

**People: If we conceal your mercy through hard and unforgiving attitudes, forgive us, Lord.**

Leader: If we conceal your compassion through our indifference to those in need, forgive us, Lord.

**All: *Lord Jesus Christ, help us to renounce any shameful attitudes of mind and heart so that we reveal your glory in and through all we do and say and are. This we pray in your name, and in the power and freedom of the Holy Spirit.***

MOMENT OF SILENCE FOR REFLECTION AND SILENT CONFESSION

**Congregational Response (Sung):**

#355

**Hear the good news of salvation;  
Jesus died to show God’s love.  
Such great kindness! Such great mercy!  
Come to us from heaven above.  
Jesus Christ, how much I love You!  
Jesus Christ, You save from sin!  
How I love You! Look upon me.  
Love me still and cleanse within.**

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Leader: The Apostle Paul writes: *All of us, with unveiled faces, seeing the glory of the Lord as though reflected in a mirror, are being transformed into the same image... (2 Corinthians 3:18). And If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new (2 Corinthians 5:17).* The good news, therefore, is this: in Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

**All: Thanks be to God!**

\*GLORIA PATRI (kids' pink page) #579

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## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

## THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

Leader: The peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you!

**People: And also with you!**

Leader: Let us offer each other a sign of peace!

READING *For the Millions* Verse Speaking  
by the Last Poets Choir

\*HYMN *I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me* #369

SCRIPTURE LESSON Exodus 34:29-35 Page 81  
Luke 9:28-36 Pages 69-70

## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

**(\*\*Students in grades 1-6 are dismissed for their Bible classes.\*\*)**

SPECIAL MUSIC *Lord, Your Lamp Is a Lamp* Boyer

SERMON *Who's Your Daddy?* Rev. Muriel Burrows

## PASTORAL PRAYER AND LORD'S PRAYER (kids' orange page)

TITHES AND OFFERINGS *Offer the sacrifices of righteousness,  
and put your trust in the Lord.*

## OFFERTORY

\*DOXOLOGY (kids' red page) #592

## \*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

**All: Bless, O God, these gifts – which we offer in obedience to your most holy law and in thankfulness for your most gracious love. May their use bring praise unto you. Amen.**

\*CLOSING HYMN *Lift Every Voice and Sing* #563

## CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

CHORAL BENEDICTION *In Me* Tindley

\* Congregation stands

\*\* Latecomers ushered in

## ANNOUNCEMENTS



**WELCOME** - The Pastor, Elders and Deacons of Witherspoon welcome most warmly all worshippers. Our fellowship is enriched by your presence. If you do not have a church home of your own, we do sincerely invite you to be a part of our fellowship. Please contact the church office for further information if you are interested in church membership (609-924-1666 or witherspoon@verizon.net).



**SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR ALL AGE GROUPS!** Adults will meet on their own schedule each month in the Fellowship Hall at 9:00 a.m. Sunday school classes for students in grades 1-6 begin immediately after the children's message in morning worship. The spring session of the 7<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade Sunday school class will begin on March 4. The session will last six weeks. (A nursery is available for children in preschool and kindergarten.)

**NURSERY CARE** is provided for children 0-5 beginning at 9:45 a.m. Today Elizabeth Ferguson is assisting with nursery care; next Sunday's nursery care will be assisted by Karen Delk.



**FLOWERS** – Flowers for today's service were given by *Vicki Meisel and Nancy Meisel-Youngman* in memory of *Elenore Meisel* and *Louise Wedderburn*. If you would like to provide flowers in honor or memory of a loved one, or simply to beautify the church, please sign up on the chart located on the door of the sound room (left-hand entrance from the sanctuary to the parish house). After worship service, the donor may take the flowers home. At present, it is the responsibility of the person giving the flowers to make his/her own arrangements for preparation and delivery of the flowers for the Chancel. The next available date is March 11.

**USHERS** for this morning's service are Cheryl and Manuel Ojeda. Next week's ushers are Tony Hawes and Vicki Meisel.



**COFFEE HOUR** - Please join us for a Coffee Hour in the Fellowship Hall following this morning's worship service. Host for the month of February is Curtis Johnson. Anyone who wishes to contribute to the Coffee Hour should contact Curtis (732-422-1343).



### **FAMILY DISCUSSION QUESTIONS FOR THIS WEEK**

(Questions on Sunday's readings for use by discussion groups, prayer groups, or for individual prayer.)

Questions to consider on the Scripture texts from Exodus 34:29-35 and Luke 9:28-36:

What were Aaron and the Israelites afraid of? What about Moses' face so frightened Aaron and the Israelites? Was it just that he looked different, or was it that they were

afraid that he had become a different person as well? What might he say now? What would he do?

- † Contrast the change in Moses' face with the change in Jesus' appearance.
- † Should Christians expect change in the way that they appear to others?
- † How is God seen?
- † Must a person have a mountaintop experience in order for God to be revealed?
- † Does the glow of God on our lives disturb people around us?
- † Will that changed person speak out for a cause in public?

When a person has truly been in the presence of God in life-changing ways, sometimes even those in the church are disturbed! This is not an invitation to bizarre behavior in the name of the Lord, but rather an invitation to acknowledge and embrace changed lives because we have been in the presence of God.

**LECTIONARY TEXT** for next Sunday, February 25, is Deuteronomy 26:1-11; Psalm 91:1-2, 9-16; Romans 10:8-13; Luke 4:1-13.



**DEEPEST SYMPATHY** – The Witherspoon community expresses its deepest sympathy to the family of *Shirley Ellis*. She passed away last Tuesday; her funeral took place yesterday at Witherspoon church.



**FOOD DONATIONS FOR CRISIS MINISTRY** – The Deacons are collecting nourishing food for the Crisis Ministry. **\*\*\*NO GLASS JARS, PLEASE.\*\*\*** Checks made payable to the Crisis Ministry are always welcome and may be placed in the offering plate or given to a deacon. Please consider an extra purchase during your next grocery shopping trip and place items in the wooden box in the Narthex.



**LISTENING ONE TO ONE** – CONTACT of Mercer County is currently recruiting volunteers for its free **HOTLINE Training Course** which will qualify people to answer calls on the **HOTLINE**. Classes will begin on **Tuesday, March 6**, and run weekly through May 22, 2007. Volunteers may choose to attend the morning course (9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.) or the evening course (7:00-10:00 p.m.). Classes meet at Trinity United Methodist Church (1985 Pennington Road, Ewing). Further information can be obtained by calling the administrative office (609-883-2880) or through CONTACT's website ([www.contactofmercer.org](http://www.contactofmercer.org)).



**WHAT IS ASH WEDNESDAY?** – Ash Wednesday is the first day of Lent, the 40 days that precede Holy Week and Easter. In the Christian Scriptures the number 40 relates to the period spent in the Ark by Noah, the period spent by Israel seeking the Promised Land after the Exodus, and the amount of time Jesus was in the Wilderness after his baptism and prior to beginning his ministry. For us, the Season of Lent is an invitation to 40 days of renewal, 40 days to prepare ourselves to take in the Good News of Easter (The Resurrection) through deeper disciplines of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. Ashes are the traditional sign of “mortality.” **We will celebrate Ash Wednesday this Wednesday, February 21, at 7:00 p.m.**



**INTERFAITH POTLUCK DINNER AND DIALOGUE TODAY**

– There will be a panel presentation by community leaders followed by a discussion at First Baptist Church (John Street and Paul Robeson Place, Princeton) from 4:00 to 7:00 p.m. today. Sponsors are the Central Jersey Interfaith Gathering, Not in Our Town, Coalition for Peace Action, and the Princeton Clergy Association. Bring a dish to share. For more information, contact Elizabeth Peck (609-452-2670).



**CALLING ALL WSPC MEN!** – The Men’s Association will meet **this Saturday, February 24**, at 9:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Cornell Edmonds will lead a discussion on developing male leaders in the church based on his experience as Executive Presbyter for the City of New York. We will also continue the discussion about possible projects and activities the men will initiate. All are welcome, especially new members and friends of the Witherspoon family. Christo Claassens will serve as breakfast host.



**POVERTY SIMULATION EVENT – This Saturday, February 24**, The Crisis Ministry invites you to walk a mile in the shoes of those facing poverty by participating in a poverty simulation experience. It is difficult for those who have enough to understand the situation that families living in poverty experience everyday or recognize the underlying structures which make it difficult to escape poverty. This program is designed to provide participants with the opportunity to assume the role of a low-income family member living on a very limited budget. This event will take place at Whig Hall, Princeton University from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. To participate, RSVP to The Crisis Ministry (info@thecrisisministry.org or 609-396-9355).



**DON'T MISS THIS MEETING!** – The square next to Princeton Public Library will be named soon. Some residents of Princeton want the square to be dedicated to and named after Mr. Albert E. Hinds who was born in Princeton on April 14, 1902, and died last year at the age of 104. He has done more for Princeton than any resident – when Nassau Street was a dirt road, Mr. Hinds helped to pave it. His service in Princeton spans from shining shoes to serving on the Princeton Zoning Board. He was also Physical Education Director of the Colored YMCA and in his later years he taught exercises and bridge to senior citizens.

Mr. Hinds deserves a place of honor in the Princeton community. **Next Tuesday, February 27**, at 7:30 p.m., the Princeton Borough Council will have an open meeting to discuss naming the square. Please be present at Borough Hall to support this endeavor.