

Instructions:

Group leaders, take some time before your gathering to look over these questions. Ask the Holy Spirit to guide you as you pick 3-5 questions to discuss that pertain to your group's unique style and needs.



Series: The Voice

Our world is a noisy place, with many voices vying for our time and attention. Yet God has given his spirit of wisdom for guidance, comfort, and power. Throughout scripture, this Spirit is described as a hovering cloud, tongues of fire, wind, and also as a voice. How can we hear this voice over all the rest? How do we know if it is really the Holy Spirit? And how can we tap into its power available to us to continue the mission of Jesus in the world?

Join us for a 3-week series on the Holy Spirit and how to listen, experience, and engage the Spirit today.

Message description:

This week we celebrate Transfiguration Sunday, which belongs not to Ordinary Time or Lent, but in the liminal space between the two. This is a day of spiritual growing pains brought on by the shock of coming face-to-face with the glory of God.

The path of discipleship is not without suffering, discomfort, doubt and questions; however, we are promised the gift of the Holy Spirit to be for us another advocate, a comforter, our gift of assurance that keeps on revealing God's great and abiding love for us all so that we might share that transformational love with the world.

Key Scripture

Mark 9:2-10 (consider reading the other gospel accounts of the Transfiguration in Matthew 17, Luke 9:28 and following, and John 14:15-31)

Questions Related to This Week's Message:

1. We tend to resist change and hold on to what we know, even when God is leading us into new and transformative experiences. Have you resisted change although you felt God was leading you?
2. God said, "This is my Son, the Beloved; listen to him!" (Mark 9:7b) How might this declaration guide us in our journey of faith?
3. In what ways do you feel God is calling you to growth in your spiritual journey or service within the church community?
4. Are there obstacles or challenges that you feel are preventing you from embracing the call to growth? How might you overcome them?
5. The Holy Spirit acting as comforter/helper in times of great sorrow, fear, and need is a powerful witness to the transformational and abiding love of God. Is there a time in your life when you have experienced the Spirit in this way? How can you use your witness to encourage others to experience God at work in their lives?

Please be intentional about praying together!

Consider joining us as a house group for one of our Thursday nights of prayer and worship throughout Lent.



Starting February 1 at 7pm, the pastoral team will meet in the lower level at MUMC (enter building A their main sanctuary building) for an intentional time of prayer and worship as we seek God's presence and guidance in this season.

Let us not underestimate the power of our community coming together in an hour of need to pray!

Close in prayer:

Pray together. Create intentional time and space to offer prayers for one another, that we might share in the comfort of Christ together and experience the Spirit's presence.

Consider the simple acronym of ACTS to guide your time of prayer together:

- A- Adoration.** *Share praise reports or reasons to praise God. (Reading a psalm together can help)*
- C- Confession.** *Leave space to pray silently or individually to confess sins.*
- T- Thanksgiving.** *Share something in the group that you are thankful for this week.*
- S- Supplication, or petition.** *Share concerns and prayer requests you have.*