

## **DIAKONIA PRAYER LETTER February 2022**

The last Sunday before Lent is traditionally Transfiguration Sunday. In 2022, that Sunday in 2022 falls on February 27 and the Gospel of Luke's version of the story is shared.

*Now about eight days after these sayings Jesus took with him Peter and John and James, and went up on the mountain to pray. And while he was praying, the appearance of his face changed, and his clothes became dazzling white. Luke 9: 28-29.*

### *Prayer*

Transfigured One, you took Peter, James, and John up the mountain.

Take us with you too: all your people who long for your presence in their lives.

Take us with you in the power of the mystical moment,  
in the holiness of prayerful reflection,  
in the beauty of sacred silence.

Rabbi, Teacher, we would honour the Prophets and Elijah,  
who heard the still, small voice,  
who knew the abundance of life in the widow's unfailing oil.

We would honour Miriam and Moses,  
who stood on holy ground,  
who led the people into liberation,  
who challenged their community with the law and the commandments.

We would honour you, Messiah who preached a gospel of radical reversal:  
last first,  
Samaritans good,  
lines in the sand for the entitled and cruel.

We would honour you, Messiah who healed,  
with the hem of your garment,  
with the crumbs under the table,  
with the loaves and fishes banquet.

Holy One, it is good for us to remember these things: our story enfolded in your story.

When clouds of persecution, prejudice, and pandemic overshadow us,  
speak again to us, remind us that we, too, are your children, your beloved.

When we don't know what to say in the face of ego and exploitation, domination and deception,  
speak again to us, and remind us to listen.

When we are terrified by chaos and conflict and COVID confusion,  
help us to be transfigured, by the gift of your courage and integrity.

When are disoriented by the lack of permanence and patience,  
transform us into your non-violent, yet assertive, disciples of love.  
Shape us into your compassionate, justice-seeking people of faith.

*Ted Dodd, Diakonia of the United Church of Canada and  
President of DIAKONIA of the Americas and the Caribbean (DOTAC)*