

Sunday, March 14, 2010

Luke 9:28-36

28 About eight days after Jesus said this, he took Peter, John and James with him and went up onto a mountain to pray. 29 As he was praying, the appearance of his face changed, and his clothes became as bright as a flash of lightning. 30 Two men, Moses and Elijah, 31 appeared in glorious splendor, talking with Jesus. They spoke about his departure, which he was about to bring to fulfillment at Jerusalem. 32 Peter and his companions were very sleepy, but when they became fully awake, they saw his glory and the two men standing with him. 33 As the men were leaving Jesus, Peter said to him, "Master, it is good for us to be here. Let us put up three shelters--one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah." (He did not know what he was saying.) 34 While he was speaking, a cloud appeared and enveloped them, and they were afraid as they entered the cloud. 35 A voice came from the cloud, saying, "This is my Son, whom I have chosen; listen to him." 36 When the voice had spoken, they found that Jesus was alone. The disciples kept this to themselves, and told no one at that time what they had seen.

Installation of New Pastor Prayer

We praise you, gracious Lord, for you alone are God. You have made us, and we are your people, the sheep of your pasture. You have led us to green meadows by cool waters, satisfying our every need with your love. You have shown us paths that are right. Through shadowed valleys of despair, you have been our comfort and our hope. Over long generations, your presence has sustained your people. In your good time, you sent Jesus, your only Beloved, to be our shepherd. He knew and loved your own, calling all who would hear to follow him. The Good Shepherd laid down his life for us, risking the cross for the hope of resurrection. By the power of the risen Christ you gathered the church together to live for you in newness of life, a holy nation, a priestly family, a people chosen as your own and called to proclaim your marvelous love.

Gracious God, pour out your Holy Spirit upon us, that we may be faithful as your people and fruitful in the ministries you have given us. Grant diligence to those who lead, faith to those who teach, truth to all who speak, compassion to all who heal, wisdom to those who counsel, generosity to those who give, and cheerfulness to all who serve. To your servant Chip, and to all who tend your flock as pastors among your people, give vision and strength, hospitality, humility, and peace. Bless the common ministry of this pastor and people with joy and power in the gospel. Strengthen us to live out the grace of our baptism and to serve you with the gifts of your Holy Spirit; for the sake of Jesus Christ, our only shepherd and Lord. Amen.

Join us at 4:00 p.m. for the Installation of Rev. Chip Low as our next pastor.