

Children's Message  
2.18.07  
Last Sunday after Epiphany  
Transfiguration Sunday

How many of you know who this is? Good. You all know who this is even if they have this scarf covering their head. But how can you tell it's the person you think it is if you can't see their face?

You might recognize their voice, you can tell how tall this person is, you can see the clothes that they're wearing and you can tell how this person acts. Even if this person's face is covered, you can still tell who it is.

What if the only way you ever saw this person was with a scarf over their head and face? What if they walked around like this all the time? You could still get to know this person. We could talk and do things together even if you couldn't see their face.

But if we take the scarf off you can see who this person is much more clearly.

Today is Transfiguration Sunday. The word transfiguration means a change in looks or appearance. We read in the Bible how Jesus took three of his disciples up to the top of a mountain with him. While they were up there, something amazing happened. Before their very eyes, Jesus changed. It was as if a light began to shine brightly inside Jesus. His face and body, and even his clothes, began to shine brightly. And then two prophets from long ago suddenly appeared near Jesus and began speaking with him.

This transfiguration was as if a scarf had been pulled away from the face of Jesus and suddenly the disciples could see Jesus for who he really was: Jesus was a true man; he was a person just like his friends. But he was also God. For this glorious moment, the disciples were able to see Jesus as true man and true God.

Sometimes in our own lives, scarves are pulled away. As we get to know people, we begin to see them more clearly. For instance, when you're little you see your mom and dad as people who take care of you- they clothe you, feed you and love you. But as you get older, the scarf starts to come off your parents and you see something new about them- that they *need* your help and they need love *from* you, too. Well, the same holds true for God. When we are little, we hear that God loves us and takes care of us; but as we grow older we learn more about God and then- then there are times that the scarf comes off God and we know, without a doubt, that God is right here with us. These are our transfiguring moments. These are the times that we, just like Jesus' disciples, see the love of God very clearly.

Pastor Sue Ann, will you please lead us in a prayer?