

February 3, 2008 "Why We Have Mountain-Top Experiences" - Rev. Sandi Rice

[Prayers of healing for Reverend Carlene Wood].

- Jesus has moment of transfiguration:
 - an exalting, glorifying, or spiritual change;
 - a Christian feast that commemorates the transfiguration of Christ on a mountaintop in the presence of three disciples and that is observed on August 6 in the Roman Catholic and some Eastern churches and on the Sunday before Lent in most Protestant churches.
- Like Jesus "drinking a spiritual Red Bull".
- Experience with God and the prophets to prepare Him for what is to come for Him and his disciples (what He is called to do).
- All of us will have (hopefully) an "a-ha" moment (we are either "shaken", or it is quiet) and we know God is. God is alive and in us.
- Then reality comes back, because we cannot live on this plane – we have to get back to work, the laundry, etc.
- We are most likely to experience the God of the mountain when we are in the "valley", when the bottom falls out.
- The mountain symbolized the meeting place of God and humanity. We obviously cannot be at this place very often.
- We are at the "middle of God", the presence of the Holy – regardless of the circumstance. If I forget this, I AM LIVING IN FEAR, AND I HAVE MY HEART AND MY MIND ON THE WRONG THING. We can't let fear win. Fear is not of God. Love is of God. Even when it hurts. How is fear working for you?
- We must remember that God is in control.
- The view from the mountaintop is incredible.

Hymn of Response:

In the presence of Jehovah God Almighty, Prince of Peace Troubles vanish, hearts are mended In the presence of the King.

Communion:

Liberating and healing God, by the grace of Jesus Christ, may we be forgiven, and delivered from all the powers of darkness. In the light of Christ may we walk without wavering or stumbling. For your name's sake. Amen.