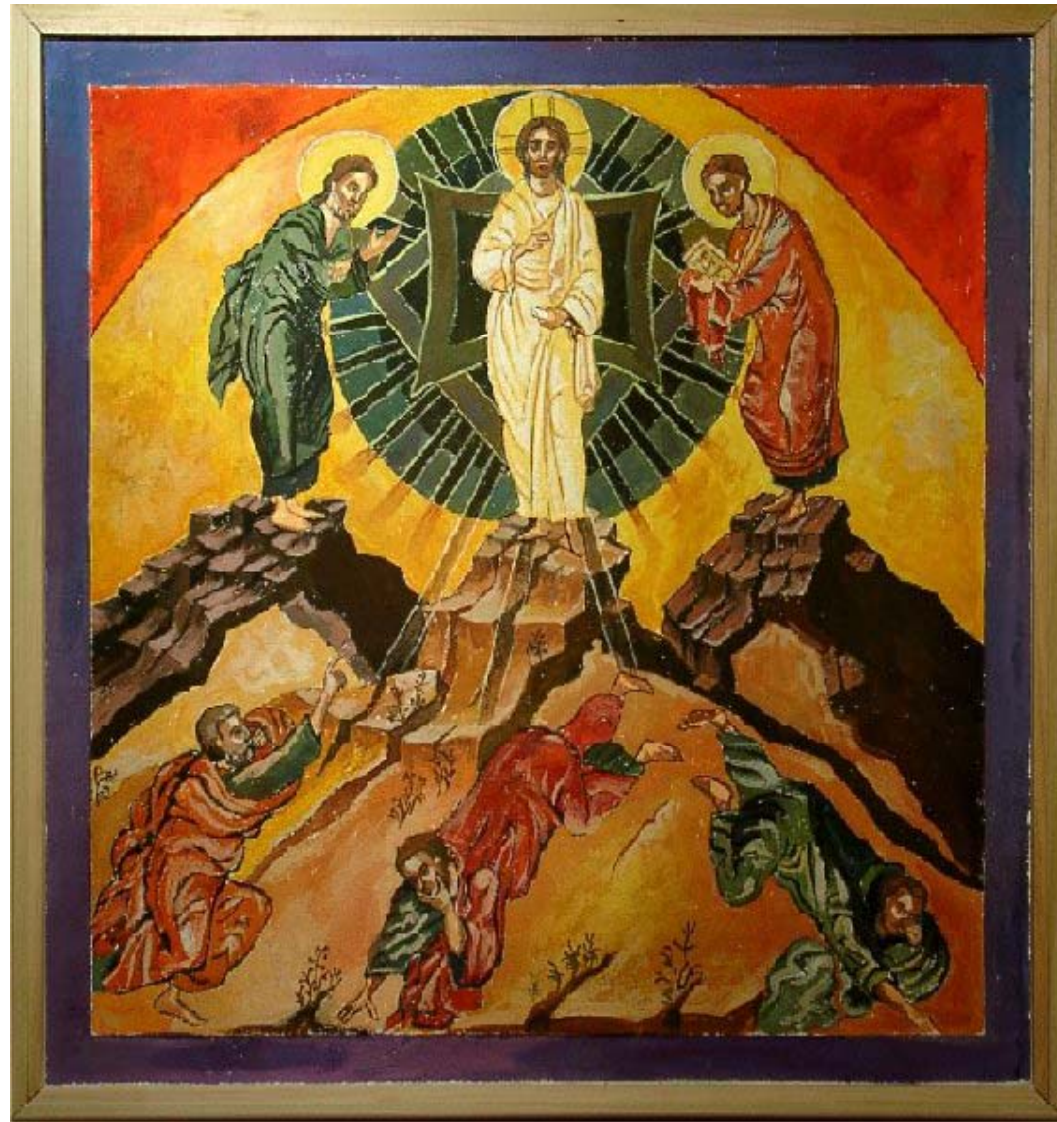


Homiletical Strategies

“Running the Story”

The Transfiguration: A Narrative Strategy

- Analyze the biblical story according to its “scenes.”
- Check that the plot of the sermon parallels that of the biblical text (with its scenes).
- Identify the locations where we will put the story on “pause” and explore how it is at this place in the story.
- Each of these locations will then be explored through “talk about” language along with imagistic speech.



Icon--Transfiguration

The Transfiguration: A Narrative Strategy

- Location I – “And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became dazzling white.”

(Question: Since the Feast of the Transfiguration is August 6, why not image the “dazzling white” of the first atomic bomb dropped on that day on Hiroshima?)

The Transfiguration: A Narrative Strategy

- Location 2 – “Suddenly, there appeared to them Moses and Elijah talking with him.”

(Question: Do we want to explore Law & Prophets meaning or image of God as strong deliverer of the oppressed?)

The Transfiguration: A Narrative Strategy

- Location 3 – Peter: “three dwellings...”



The Transfiguration: A Narrative Strategy

- Location 4 – “Suddenly a bright cloud overshadowed them...”

Clingmans Dome—Great Smokies



The Transfiguration: A Narrative Strategy

- Location 5 – “and from the cloud a voice,...
‘listen to him’.”

(Question: Given that this is a vision, when have we heard Jesus say anything?)

“If any want to be my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me.” (Matt. 16:24)

The Transfiguration: A Narrative Strategy

- Location 6 – “The disciples “fell to the ground and were overcome by fear.”
- (Question: How shall we image this fear...?)

The Transfiguration: A Narrative Strategy

- Location 7 – “But Jesus came up and touched them...”



The Transfiguration: A Narrative Strategy

- Location 8 –
“Get up and do not
be afraid.”

