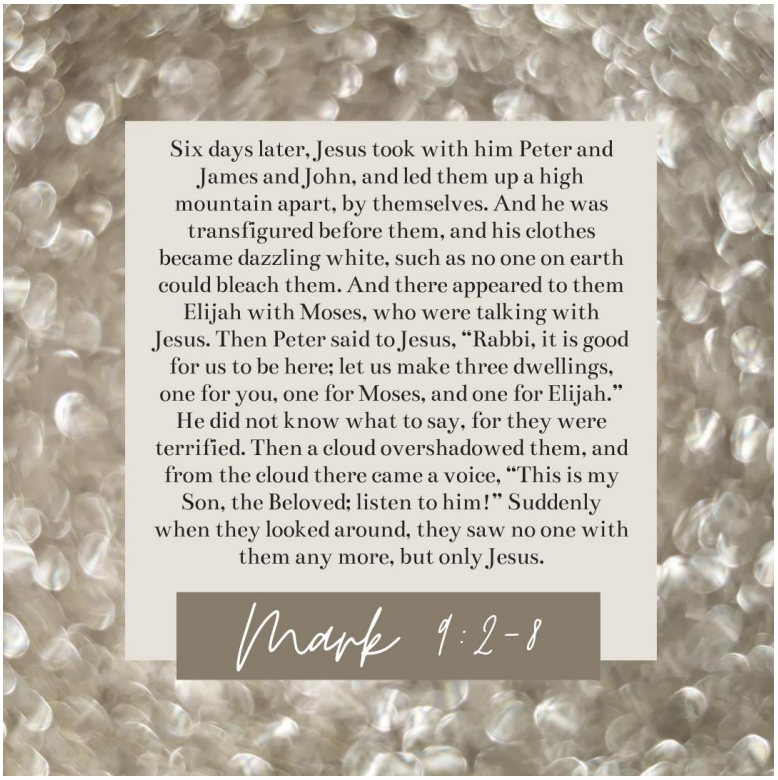
March 6, 2021 Lenten Devotional
Mark 9:2-8 – “The Transfiguration”
By: Emily Pilat, Christ, Roanoke



Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and John, and led them up a high mountain apart, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, [3] and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no one on earth could bleach them. And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses, who were talking with Jesus. Then Peter said to Jesus, “Rabbi, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.” He did not know what to say, for they were terrified. Then a cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud there came a voice, “This is my Son, the Beloved; listen to him!” Suddenly when they looked around, they saw no one with them any more, but only Jesus. -Mark 9:2-8

Reflection

One of my absolute favorite reality shows is the Netflix series Queer Eye. It's comfort food TV that I end up watching full seasons when I need a good pick me up. Each episode of the series showcases a deserving hero who is joined by the Fab Five: Antoni Porowski, food and wine expert; Tan France, fashion expert; Karamo Brown, culture expert; Bobby Berk, design expert; and Jonathan Van Ness, grooming expert. Each episode's hero gets to spend time with the Fab Five for several days to transform their style and their sense of self as well. Of course, there's still the fun of seeing a new hairstyle or a better fitting wardrobe in each episode; it's a full head to toe makeover show after all. But, the show's most rewarding aspect is seeing how confident each hero becomes in their skin.

The transformation of each hero allows the person they have been all along to shine forth front and center. Throughout an episode, you'll see the hero's shoulders stop slumping as they learn to cook a new recipe for themselves. The hero might even stand taller as they finally appreciate and admire who they see in the mirror. They become luminescent because, for the first time, these heroes realize and recognize themselves as they always have been to the people who love them.

The Transfiguration of Jesus has always reminded me of the best kind of makeover. During the Transfiguration, Peter and James, and John witness Jesus' divinity fully. Once it is recognized, the splendor of his glory lights them up as well. Like the Fab Five, Jesus and his disciples work to heal and support others with their ministry, bringing with them light and grace. We can do the same by celebrating and bringing forth radiance from within as we love and care for others. With good works, we adorn one another as God's beloved.