

The Episcopal Church *of the* **Transfiguration**

THE SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY
FEBRUARY 23, 2025

8:00 AM AND 10:00 AM



The Mission of Church of the Transfiguration
is to be a Christian community;
accepting and inviting all persons to share in worship,
witness and service; as disciples of Jesus Christ in the world.

Welcome to the Season of the Epiphany at Transfiguration Church!

Epiphany is a season in which God's glory is revealed to us in the scriptures assigned for each Sunday. Our forum series will help us dig deeper into the scriptures to find out what they say about God, Jesus, the Holy Spirit, and ourselves. Let us wonder together as we consider how God is speaking to us through Word and Sacrament.

THE HOLY EUCHARIST, RITE II

10:00 am THE GATHERING HYMN

Blessed be the God of Israel

Renew, #128

THE WORD OF GOD

Please rise in body or in spirit. The Celebrant says

BCP, pg. 355

Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People ***And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.***

The Officiant then says the Collect for Purity

BCP, pg. 355

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord.

People ***Amen.***

8:00 a.m. **CANTICLE: THE THIRD SONG OF ISAIAH**

BCP, pg.87-88

Arise, shine, for your light has come, *

and the glory of the Lord has dawned upon you.

For behold, darkness covers the land; *

deep gloom enshrouds the peoples.

But over you the Lord will rise, *

and his glory will appear upon you.

Nations will stream to your light, *

and kings to the brightness of your dawning.

Your gates will always be open; *

by day or night they will never be shut.

They will call you, The City of the Lord, *

The Zion of the Holy One of Israel.

Violence will no more be heard in your land, *

ruin or destruction within your borders.

You will call your walls, Salvation, *

and all your portals, Praise.

The sun will no more be your light by day; *

by night you will not need the brightness of the moon.

1 O come, let us a - dore him, O come, let us a -
 2 We'll praise his name for - e - ver, we'll praise his name for -
 4 For he a - lone is wort - hy, for he a - lone is

dore him, O come, let us a - dore him, — Christ — the Lord.
 e - ver, we'll praise his name for - e - ver, — Christ — the Lord.
 wort - hy, for he a - lone is wort - hy, — Christ — the Lord.

Hymnary.org

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

BCP, pg. 216

Celebrant The Lord be with you.*People* **And also with you.***Celebrant* Let us pray.

O Lord, you have taught us that without love whatever we do is worth nothing: Send your Holy Spirit and pour into our hearts your greatest gift, which is love, the true bond of peace and of all virtue, without which whoever lives is accounted dead before you. Grant this for the sake of your only Son Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE READINGS**A Reading from the Book of Genesis**

45:3-11, 15

Joseph said to his brothers, "I am Joseph. Is my father still alive?" But his brothers could not answer him, so dismayed were they at his presence.

Then Joseph said to his brothers, "Come closer to me." And they came closer. He said, "I am your brother, Joseph, whom you sold into Egypt. And now do not be

distressed, or angry with yourselves, because you sold me here; for God sent me before you to preserve life. For the famine has been in the land these two years; and there are five more years in which there will be neither plowing nor harvest. God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on earth, and to keep alive for you many survivors. So it was not you who sent me here, but God; he has made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house and ruler over all the land of Egypt. Hurry and go up to my father and say to him, 'Thus says your son Joseph, God has made me lord of all Egypt; come down to me, do not delay. You shall settle in the land of Goshen, and you shall be near me, you and your children and your children's children, as well as your flocks, your herds, and all that you have. I will provide for you there--since there are five more years of famine to come--so that you and your household, and all that you have, will not come to poverty.'

And he kissed all his brothers and wept upon them; and after that his brothers talked with him.

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 37:1-12, 41-42

Noli aemulari

BCP, pg. 633-4, 6

- 1 Do not fret yourself because of evildoers; *
do not be jealous of those who do wrong.
- 2 For they shall soon wither like the grass, *
and like the green grass fade away.
- 3 Put your trust in the LORD and do good; *
dwell in the land and feed on its riches.
- 4 Take delight in the LORD, *
and he shall give you your heart's desire.
- 5 Commit your way to the LORD and put your trust in him, *
and he will bring it to pass.
- 6 He will make your righteousness as clear as the light *
and your just dealing as the noonday.
- 7 Be still before the LORD *
and wait patiently for him.
- 8 Do not fret yourself over the one who prospers, *
the one who succeeds in evil schemes.

- 9 Refrain from anger, leave rage alone; *
do not fret yourself; it leads only to evil.
- 10 For evildoers shall be cut off, *
but those who wait upon the LORD shall possess the land.
- 11 In a little while the wicked shall be no more; *
you shall search out their place, but they will not be there.
- 12 But the lowly shall possess the land; *
they will delight in abundance of peace.
- 41 But the deliverance of the righteous comes from the LORD; *
he is their stronghold in time of trouble.
- 42 The LORD will help them and rescue them; *
he will rescue them from the wicked and deliver them,
because they seek refuge in him.

A Reading from the First Letter of Paul to the Corinthians

15:35-38, 42-50

Someone will ask, "How are the dead raised? With what kind of body do they come?" Fool! What you sow does not come to life unless it dies. And as for what you sow, you do not sow the body that is to be, but a bare seed, perhaps of wheat or of some other grain. But God gives it a body as he has chosen, and to each kind of seed its own body.

So it is with the resurrection of the dead. What is sown is perishable, what is raised is imperishable. It is sown in dishonor, it is raised in glory. It is sown in weakness, it is raised in power. It is sown a physical body, it is raised a spiritual body. If there is a physical body, there is also a spiritual body. Thus it is written, "The first man, Adam, became a living being"; the last Adam became a life-giving spirit. But it is not the spiritual that is first, but the physical, and then the spiritual. The first man was from the earth, a man of dust; the second man is from heaven. As was the man of dust, so are those who are of the dust; and as is the man of heaven, so are those who are of heaven. Just as we have borne the image of the man of dust, we will also bear the image of the man of heaven.

What I am saying, brothers and sisters, is this: flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God, nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable.

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to the church.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Please rise in body or in spirit.

Celebrant The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke 6:27-38

People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus said, "I say to you that listen, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. If anyone strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also; and from anyone who takes away your coat do not withhold even your shirt. Give to everyone who begs from you; and if anyone takes away your goods, do not ask for them again. Do to others as you would have them do to you.

"If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. If you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. If you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to receive as much again. But love your enemies, do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return. Your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High; for he is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked. Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.

"Do not judge, and you will not be judged; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven; give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap; for the measure you give will be the measure you get back."

After the Gospel the Celebrant says

The Gospel of the Lord.

People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

THE SERMON

The Rev. Meg Goldstein

THE NICENE CREED

BCP, pg. 358

Please rise in body or in spirit.

**We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

***We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father.
Through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven:
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,
and was made man.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.***

***We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
He has spoken through the Prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.***

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE FOR THE SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY OF OUR LORD, YEAR C

Let us be still and patient before the Lord, as we offer our prayers and thanksgivings, responding, "Hear us, God of glory."

That the power of the Holy Spirit may be sent into the heart of the world, uniting peoples everywhere with the true bonds of forgiveness and peace; let us pray to the Lord.

Hear us, God of glory.

That those who till the land on small farms may have bountiful crops, trusting that what is sown in the fertile soil of God's love will be harvested with joy and thanksgiving; let us pray to the Lord.

Hear us, God of glory.

For those holding elected office, and all of us who can influence them, that together we may take responsibility of finding answers to the problems that plague our communities, especially economic injustice and poverty, illiteracy, and fractured family life; let us pray to the Lord.

Hear us, God of glory.

For spiritual transformation throughout our Church, as we refrain from the gossip that divides us, the bitterness that blocks forgiveness, the condemnation that distorts God's image in others, and the greed that diminishes generosity; let us pray to the Lord.

Hear us, God of glory.

In thanksgiving for God's compassion working in our lives to restore us to wholeness of mind, body, and spirit, saving us from ourselves, and releasing us to witness to his love; let us pray to the Lord.

Hear us, God of glory.

In thanksgiving for men and women who serve as missionaries in foreign lands, and for those followers of Jesus who are being persecuted for their faith; may their faith inspire our own; let us pray to the Lord.

Hear us, God of glory.

For all who have died in the faith of the Church—especially Kimberly Livingood, sister of David Wasem, who died February 10th—that they may have a place at the table in your heavenly kingdom; let us pray to the Lord.

Hear us, God of glory.

Holy Spirit of the living God, pour your love into our hearts, as we continue our prayers, either silently or aloud.

In our parish cycle of prayer, we pray for those whom we serve at Highlander Laundromat this week and those who serve them through Laundry Love. May this ministry of being present and offering laundry supplies and quarters be a blessing of love and compassion to our neighbors.

We also pray for the youth who are in detention and the chaplains who minister to them. May the chaplains of the Episcopal City Mission and the monthly birthday parties be means for these youth to experience your love and compassion.

In the diocesan cycle of prayer we pray for the people and ministry Trinity Episcopal Church in St. James; Kevin, their Priest-in-Charge; and Pat, their Deacon. In our companion Diocese of Puerto Rico, we pray for The Holy Spirit Mission in Aibonito.

We pray for those on our prayer list: **Karen, Joey, John, Maureen, Alice, Kyle, Kathy, Ray, Kensie, Janet, Karen, Fred, Becky, Lorna, Steve, Emily, Peggy, Charlene, Laura, Barb, Bill, Papa, Lisa, Molly, Carolyn, Kaitlyn, Ashley, Virginia, Mindy, Sherry, Kathleen, Regina, Sarah, Lisa, Brad, Patrick Elizabeth, Keith, Roma, William, Steve, Mary, Dani, Dana, Barry, Jerry, Mari, Ron, Sandra, Toni, June, and Lisa.**

Are there others?

after a moment of silence, the Leader continues:

We give thanks for birthdays: John Notgrass, Karen Modde, Felix Goldstein, and Zack Rogers.

The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.

Adapted from Intercessions Year C: Keyed to the Themes of the Revised Common Lectionary © 2012 by GERALYN WOLF.

CONFESSION OF SIN AND ABSOLUTION

BCP, pg. 360

The Celebrant says

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept.

Celebrant and people

**Most merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word and deed,
by what we have done,**

*and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of your son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us;
that we may delight in your will,
and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your Name.*

Amen

The Celebrant says

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen**

THE PEACE

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

Then the Ministers and People greet one another in the name of the Lord

BRIEF ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE HOLY COMMUNION

THE OFFERTORY

The Celebrant says an offertory sentence.

An offering plate will not be passed at this service. You are invited to leave your gift in the offering plate in the Narthex on the Welcome Table as you depart today's service. We are grateful for your generous and ongoing support of the ministries of Transfiguration Church.

10:00 am **THE OFFERTORY HYMN**

Day by day

Hymnal, #654

8:00 a.m.

Celebrant All things come of thee, O Lord

People **And of thine own have we given thee.**

10:00 a.m. **THE DOXOLOGY**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow

Tune: Old 100th

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;

Praise God all creatures here below;

**Praise God above ye heav'nly host:
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING, EUCHARISTIC PRAYER B

BCP, pg. 367

Please rise in body or in spirit. The Celebrant says

The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them to the Lord.**

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

The Celebrant proceeds

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Because in the mystery of the Word made flesh, you have caused a new light to shine in our hearts, to give the knowledge of your glory in the face of your son Jesus Christ our Lord.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name.

Celebrant and People

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

The Celebrant continues

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father

Celebrant and People

***We remember his death,
We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory;***

The Celebrant continues

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **AMEN.**

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to pray,

BCP, pg. 364

Celebrant and People

***Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy Name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those***

***who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.***

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

BCP, pg. 364

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.

Then the following is said

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People ***Therefore, let us keep the feast. Alleluia.***

Facing the people, the Celebrant says the following Invitation

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

The Celebrant may add: Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

All are welcome to receive the bread and wine of the Eucharist, or a blessing if preferred. Please note that you may drink directly from the chalice – we do not allow self-intinction. If you do not wish to drink from the chalice you may simply return to your seat after receiving the bread. Please wait for the Usher to release the section where you are seated.

10:00 a.m. PRAYER OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION *(while those present are coming forward to receive the bread, a leader addresses those who are watching the livestream feed)*

Leader: The Resurrected Christ has gathered us to feast at the Table of Remembrance, yet circumstances make it difficult for some to gather physically around Christ's altar and receive Christ's eucharistic body. Wherever you are, you are offered God's grace by spiritually receiving Christ in your heart.

Please pray with me *(prayed by those who are watching the livestream feed)*

In union, O Lord,

with the faithful of your Church where the Holy Eucharist is now being celebrated,

I desire to offer you praise and thanksgiving.

I present to you my soul and body

with the earnest wish that I may always be united to you.

And since I cannot now receive you sacramentally,

I beseech you to come spiritually into my heart.

I unite myself with you and embrace you with all the love of my soul.

Let nothing ever separate you from me.

May I live in you, and may you live in me,
both in this life and in the life to come. Amen.

POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER *(said by all)*

Please rise in body or in spirit.

The Celebrant says

Let us pray.

Celebrant and People

**Eternal God, heavenly Father,
you have graciously accepted us as living members
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ,
and you have fed us with spiritual food
in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood.
Send us now into the world in peace,
and grant us strength and courage
to love and serve you
with gladness and singleness of heart;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

THE EPIPHANY BLESSING

Celebrant May Christ, the Son of God, be manifest in you, that your lives may be a light to the world; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

10:00 am **THE SENDING HYMN** *Immortal, invisible, God only wise* Hymnal, #423

THE EPIPHANY DISMISSAL

Celebrant Let us go forth in the name of Christ!

People **Thanks be to God!**

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The Invitation to and Prayer of Spiritual Communion takes its central meaning from the Order of Service for the

Renewal of Baptism and Ordination Vows, and the Blessing of the Oils Service from March 30, 2021 by the dioceses of Kansas, Western Kansas, Missouri, West Missouri, the Central States Synod of the ELCA and Grace and Holy Trinity Cathedral, and is adapted by Rev. Dr. Marshall Crossnoe.

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