

TRANSFIGURATION FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER EPHIPHANY February 4, 2024



A community praising God, growing in Christ, and joyfully serving others.

Welcome. We are so happy to have you with us! If you are visiting us for the first time, please fill out a visitor's card and put it in the offering plate which is in front of the baptismal font.

Opening Hymn

Processional The God of Abraham praise H 401 vs 1-3

Please stand as you are able.

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

People And blessed be his kingdom, now and forever. Amen.

Priest and People

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. Amen.





The Collect

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Let us pray.

Set us free, O God, from the bondage of our sins, and give us the liberty of that abundant life which you have made known to us in your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever *Amen*.

The Lessons

First Reading Isaiah 40:21-31

A reading from the book of Isaiah

Have you not known? Have you not heard?

Has it not been told you from the beginning?

Have you not understood from the foundations of the earth?

It is he who sits above the circle of the earth, and its inhabitants are like grasshoppers; who stretches out the heavens like a curtain, and spreads them like a tent to live in; who brings princes to naught, and makes the rulers of the earth as nothing.

Scarcely are they planted, scarcely sown, scarcely has their stem taken root in the earth, when he blows upon them, and they wither, and the tempest carries them off like stubble.

To whom then will you compare me, or who is my equal? says the Holy One. Lift up your eyes on high and see:

Who created these?

He who brings out their host and numbers them, calling them all by name; because he is great in strength, mighty in power, not one is missing.

Why do you say, O Jacob, and speak, O Israel, "My way is hidden from the LORD, and my right is disregarded by my God"?

Have you not known? Have you not heard? The LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary; his understanding is unsearchable. He gives power to the faint, and strengthens the powerless. Even youths will faint and be weary, and the young will fall exhausted; but those who wait for the LORD shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint.

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

People Thanks be to God.

Psalm 147:1-12, 21c



1 Hallelujah!

How good it is to sing praises to our God! * how pleasant it is to honor him with praise!

- 2 The LORD rebuilds Jerusalem; * he gathers the exiles of Israel.
- 3 He heals the brokenhearted * and binds up their wounds.

[ANT.]

4 He counts the number of the stars * and calls them all by their names. 5 Great is our LORD and mighty in power; * there is no limit to his wisdom. [ANT.] 6 The LORD lifts up the lowly, * but casts the wicked to the ground. 7 Sing to the LORD with thanksgiving; * make music to our God upon the harp. [ANT.] 8 He covers the heavens with clouds * and prepares rain for the earth; 9 He makes grass to grow upon the mountains * and green plants to serve mankind. 10 He provides food for flocks and herds * [ANT.] and for the young ravens when they cry. 11 He is not impressed by the might of a horse; * he has no pleasure in the strength of a man; 12 But the LORD has pleasure in those who fear him, * in those who await his gracious favor. 21 Hallelujah! [ANT.]

The Epistle

A reading from the first letter of Paul to the Corinthians

If I proclaim the gospel, this gives me no ground for boasting, for an obligation is laid on me, and woe to me if I do not proclaim the gospel! For if I do this of my own will, I have a reward; but if not of my own will, I am entrusted with a commission. What then is my reward? Just this: that in my proclamation I may make the gospel free of charge, so as not to make full use of my rights in the gospel.

For though I am free with respect to all, I have made myself a slave to all, so that I might win more of them. To the Jews I became as a Jew, in order to win Jews. To those under the law I became as one under the law (though I myself am not under the law) so that I might win those under the law. To those outside the law I became as one outside the law (though I am not free from God's law but am under Christ's law) so that I might win those outside the law. To the weak I became weak, so that I might win the weak. I have become all things to all people, that I might by all means save some. I do it all for the sake of the gospel, so that I may share in its blessings.

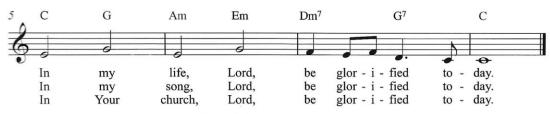
Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People Thanks be to God

Lord, Be Glorified







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The Gospel Mark 1:29-39

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.

People Glory to you, Lord Christ

After Jesus and his disciples left the synagogue, they entered the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John. Now Simon's mother-in-law was in bed with a fever, and they told him about her at once. He came and took her by the hand and lifted her up. Then the fever left her, and she began to serve them.

That evening, at sundown, they brought to him all who were sick or possessed with demons. And the whole city was gathered around the door. And he cured many who were sick with various diseases, and cast out many demons; and he would not permit the demons to speak, because they knew him. In the morning, while it was still very dark, he got up and went out to a deserted place, and there he prayed. And Simon and his companions hunted for him. When they found him, they said to him, "Everyone is searching for you." He answered, "Let us go on to the neighboring towns, so that I may proclaim the message there also; for that is what I came out to do." And he went throughout Galilee, proclaiming the message in their synagogues and casting out demons.

The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Homily

Rev. Jason Elliott

The Nicene Creed

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, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. 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, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who 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.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

To whom will we compare you, Holy One, the everlasting God, Creator of the ends of the earth, who stretches out the heavens like a curtain: Be near to us in our weakness and uphold us with your might, as we pray: Great is our God and mighty in power; there is no limit to God's wisdom.

Holy One, who never faints or grows weary: Heal and empower your Church, entrusted with a commission to bear the Good News to all the earth, that we may be all things to all people, serving as slaves to all for the sake of the gospel.

Great is our God and mighty in power;

there is no limit to God's wisdom.

Holy One, who brings princes to naught and makes the rulers of the earth as nothing: Guide our nation and all who lead in the whole earth, that they may be servants of healing and may cast out all forms of oppression throughout your creation.

Great is our God and mighty in power;

there is no limit to God's wisdom.

Holy One, who gives power to the faint and strength to the powerless: Reach out your hand and lift up all who suffer from illness or fear, violence or threat, that those who wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength, mount up with wings like eagles, run and not be weary, walk and not faint. We pray for those in the military and for our first responders, especially Alex, Anthony, Frank, Edilio, Sam, Michael, Alexander, Jacob, Will and their families. Are there others?

Great is our God and mighty in power;

there is no limit to God's wisdom.

Holy One, who lifts up the lowly and makes grass to grow upon the mountains and green plants to serve humankind: Bless this community with compassion and grace, that we may serve one another with deference and respect.

Great is our God and mighty in power;

there is no limit to God's wisdom.

Holy One, whose understanding is unsearchable, touch with your healing compassion those for whom we pray, especially for Chelsea, Georgianna, Marilyn, Chuck, Pam, Bill, Ed, Steven, Michael, Rich, Patrick, Annette, Christopher, Lorna, Cathy, Pura, Pam, Joe, Laura, Michael, Jude, Lois, Jack, Wayne, Chris, Michael, Tom, Kim, Derek, Barb, Rich, Sherrill, Sandy, Kathleen, Shane, George, Flelicya and Tom. Are there others?

Holy One, enfold into your eternal love those who have died (Pause).

Great is our God and mighty in power;

there is no limit to God's wisdom.

We pray for those celebrating birthdays, especially Cynthia Bowen, Mary Haddad, Nancy Petro, Dawn Portugues, Jeanne Preston, Susan Cartee, Lisa Carroll, and Dan Higgins. Are there others?

Great is our God and mighty in power; there is no limit to God's wisdom.

Celebrant: We look toward your eternal glory, O Holy One, and raise our voices to you in prayer: Enter our homes and towns, our solitudes and cities; cast out all that oppresses and threatens your people, heal all who are weak and bring peace in our time, that your whole creation may sing out in praise to proclaim your message of love and hope, through Jesus Christ our Savior. *Amen*.

Confession of Sin

Deacon Let us confess our sins to God.

Minister and People

God of all mercy, we confess that we have sinned against you, opposing your will in our lives. We have denied your goodness in each other, in ourselves and in the world you have created. We repent of the evil that enslaves us, the evil we have done, and the evil done on our behalf. Forgive, restore, and strengthen us through our Savior Jesus Christ, that we may abide in your love and serve only your will. Amen.

Celebrant

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through the grace of 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.

Announcements

Birthdays and Anniversaries

Birthday Prayer

Watch over your children, O Lord, as their days increase; bless and guide them wherever they may be. Strengthen them when they stand; comfort them when discouraged or sorrowful; raise them up if they fall; and in their hearts may your peace which passes understanding abide all the days of their lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Anniversary Prayer

O God, you have so consecrated the covenant of marriage that in it is represented the spiritual unity between Christ and his Church: Send therefore your blessing upon these your servants, that they may so love, honor, and cherish each other in faithfulness and patience, in wisdom and true godliness, that their home may be a haven of blessing and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

The Offertory

Let us with gladness present the offerings and oblations of our life and labor to the Lord.

Offertory Anthem When He Touches You "by Bradley Phillips"

Celebrant All things come of thee, O Lord.

People And of thine own have we given thee.

The Holy Communion

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you. Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

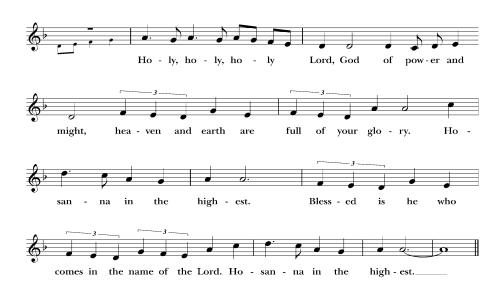
People We lift them to the Lord

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Celebrant and People

We praise you and we bless you, holy and gracious God, source of life abundant. From before time you made ready the creation. Your Spirit moved over the deep and brought all things into being: sun, moon, and stars; earth, winds, and waters; and every living thing. You made us in your image, and taught us to walk in your ways. But we rebelled against you, and wandered far away; and yet, as a mother cares for her children, you would not forget us. Time and again you called us to live in the fullness of your love. And so this day we join with Saints and Angels in the chorus of praise that rings through eternity, lifting our voices to magnify you as we sing:



The Celebrant continues

Glory and honor and praise to you, holy and living God. To deliver us from the power of sin and death and to reveal the riches of your grace, you looked with favor upon Mary, your willing servant, that she might conceive and bear a son, Jesus the holy child of God. Living among us, Jesus loved us. He broke bread with outcasts and sinners, healed the sick, and proclaimed good news to the poor. He yearned to draw all the world to himself yet we were heedless of his call to walk in love. Then, the time came for him to complete upon the cross the sacrifice of his life, and to be glorified by you.

On the night before he died for us, Jesus was at table with his friends. He took bread, gave thanks to you, broke it, and gave it to them, and said: "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

As supper was ending, Jesus took the cup of wine. Again, he gave thanks to you, gave it to them, and said: "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Now gathered at your table, O God of all creation, and remembering Christ, crucified and risen, who was and is and is to come, we offer to you our gifts of bread and wine, and ourselves, a living sacrifice.

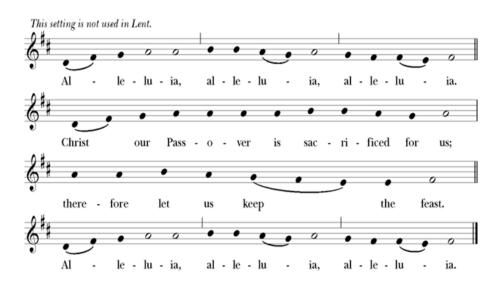
Pour out your Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Body and Blood of Christ. Breathe your Spirit over the whole earth and make us your new creation, the Body of Christ given for the world you have made. In the fullness of time bring us, with all your saints, from every tribe and language and people and nation, to feast at the banquet prepared from the foundation of the world.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and ever. *AMEN*

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

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, forever and ever. Amen

The Breaking of the Bread





Invitation to Communion

Celebrant The Gifts of God for the People of God.

Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you,

and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

Communion Anthem

Miracle of Grace "by Curtis Stephan"

Post-Communion Prayer

Celebrant Let us pray.

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.

PRAYER FOR SEARCH OF NEW RECTOR

Almighty God, the fountain of all wisdom, you know our necessities before we ask and ignorance in asking: teach us to know that our lives and futures are in your loving hands, and guide us in the calling of the next rector of the Church of the Transfiguration; grant that we may rely on your loving providence and not trust in our own cleverness, and that we might cast aside our anxieties and follow where you lead as you carry out in tranquility the plan of salvation; through the worthiness of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

Deacon: In the name of Christ, and of this congregation, we send you forth bearing the body and blood of Christ to those who cannot be with us today.....Take God's holy Word, the prayers of this congregation, and this holy food for holy people.

People: We who are many are one Body because we share one bread, one cup.

Blessing and Dismissal

And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. *Amen*.

Closing	Hymn

Immortal, Invisible

H423

Dismissal

Deacon People	Let us bless the Lord <i>Thanks be to God</i> .
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This month at Transfiguration:				
Today	Holy Eucharist	Church/FB	10:00am	
	No coffee hour/Retirement party			
2/6	Silent Prayer	Church	5:30pm	
2/10	Game Nite (Saturday)	Leach Hall	5:30pm	
2/11	Adult Formation	Leach Hall	9:00am	
	Holy Eucharist	Church/FB	10:00am	
	Coffee Hour	Leach Hall	11:00am	
2/13	Silent Prayer	Church	5:30pm	
2/15	Jubilee Brainstorm session	Leach Hall	6:30pm	

SPECIAL INTENTIONS

THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE REMAIN ON OUR PERMANENT PRAYER LIST AS THEIR NEED FOR PRAYER IS LONG-TERM RATHER THAN

ACUTE: Don, Roberta, Marilyn, Jim, Mary, Emily, Meghan, Jan, Chelsea, Bob, Mark, Michael, John, Bob, Billy, Natasha, Laura, Cindy, Pam, Katy, Lou, Nick, Brendan, Bob, Debra, Janet, Jacelyn, Sharon, Gabe, Chuck, Nancy, Mike, Tom, Betty, Carol, David, James, Kathy, Bill, John, Rosemary, Roberta, Earl, Patricia, Anita.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **COME ONE COME ALL!** We need all brains on deck for the 75th anniversary Jubilee celebration "brainstorming session"! It will be fun. I will guarantee it. Refreshments will be served. Thursday, February 15, 2024, at 6:30 pm. For more information feel free to contact me; Beth Lewis Jubilee chair at 708-497-5723.
- The highlighted gift for February is The Gift of Love and Action. This Sunday's focus is the prayer blanket ministry. Next Sunday, February 11th, is "Soup"er Bowl Sunday brunch. Anyone interested in providing a pot of soup for our brunch, please contact Katherine Hamann. We would like to make this a very special day, not only with the soup, but also making Valentine cards for the people who might appreciate a thoughtful reminder that they are loved. Monetary contributions collected will be given to our Venezuelan families. Children and Youth Ministry is cosponsoring this event.



• Please join us for Transfiguration Game Night on Saturday, February 10 in Leach Hall from 5:30-8:30 pm. It'll be lots of fun for all ages as we enjoy pizza and salad for supper, followed by game time. A free-will offering will be taken to cover our meal cost. CYMC will provide several board/card games - but all are invited to bring their favorite games from home. We will have multiple tables set up with different games going on simultaneously so there will be lots of variety. Please register your pizza preference on the signup sheet on the foyer bulletin board. We can't wait to see you there!

Note: You may continue to submit your pledges and offerings by mail or use the credit card payment option Transfigpalos.breezechms.com, or use the text giving option by texting your \$amount plus the word "pledge" to 708-394-7474. There are no Zelle payments.

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