

# TRANSFIGURATION FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER EPHIPHANY January 28, 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**

# WILL YOU COME AND FOLLOW ME



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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.

Almighty and everlasting God, you govern all things both in heaven and on earth: Mercifully hear the supplications of your people, and in our time grant us your peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen*.

#### The Lessons

# **First Reading**

**Deuteronomy 18:15-20** 

# A reading from the book of Deuteronomy

Moses said: The LORD your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among your own people; you shall heed such a prophet. This is what you requested of the LORD your God at Horeb on the day of the assembly when you said: "If I hear the voice of the LORD my God any more, or ever again see this great fire, I will die." Then the LORD replied to me: "They are right in what they have said. I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their own people; I will put my words in the mouth of the prophet, who shall speak to them everything that I command. Anyone who does not heed the words that the prophet shall speak in my name, I myself will hold accountable. But any prophet who speaks in the name of other gods, or who presumes to speak in my name a word that I have not commanded the prophet to speak—that prophet shall die."

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

People Thanks be to God.

#### Psalm 111



# 1 Hallelujah!

I will give thanks to the LORD with my whole heart, \* in the assembly of the upright, in the congregation.

2 Great are the deeds of the LORD! \* they are studied by all who delight in them.

[ANT.]

- 3 His work is full of majesty and splendor, \* and his righteousness endures for ever.
- 4 He makes his marvelous works to be remembered; \* the LORD is gracious and full of compassion.

[ANT.]

- 5 He gives food to those who fear him; \* he is ever mindful of his covenant.
- 6 He has shown his people the power of his works \* in giving them the lands of the nations.

[ANT.]

- 7 The works of his hands are faithfulness and justice; \* all his commandments are sure.
- 8 They stand fast for ever and ever, \* because they are done in truth and equity.

[ANT.]

9 He sent redemption to his people; he commanded his covenant for ever; \* holy and awesome is his Name.

[ANT.]

10 The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom; \* those who act accordingly have a good understanding; his praise endures for ever.

[ANT.]

# The Epistle

1 Corinthians 8:1-13

A reading from the first book of the Corinthians

Now concerning food sacrificed to idols: we know that "all of us possess knowledge." Knowledge puffs up, but love builds up. Anyone who claims to know something does not yet have the necessary knowledge; but anyone who loves God is known by him.

Hence, as to the eating of food offered to idols, we know that "no idol in the world really exists," and that "there is no God but one." Indeed, even though there may be so-called gods in heaven or on earth—as in fact there are many gods and many lords—yet for us there is one God, the Father, from whom are all things and for whom we exist, and one Lord, Jesus Christ, through whom are all things and through whom we exist.

It is not everyone, however, who has this knowledge. Since some have become so accustomed to idols until now, they still think of the food they eat as food offered to an idol; and their conscience, being weak, is defiled. "Food will not bring us close to God." We are no worse off if we do not eat, and no better off if we do. But take care that this liberty of yours does not somehow become a stumbling block to the weak. For if others see you, who possess knowledge, eating in the temple of an idol, might they

not, since their conscience is weak, be encouraged to the point of eating food sacrificed to idols? So by your knowledge those weak believers for whom Christ died are destroyed. But when you thus sin against members of your family, and wound their conscience when it is weak, you sin against Christ. Therefore, if food is a cause of their falling, I will never eat meat, so that I may not cause one of them to fall.

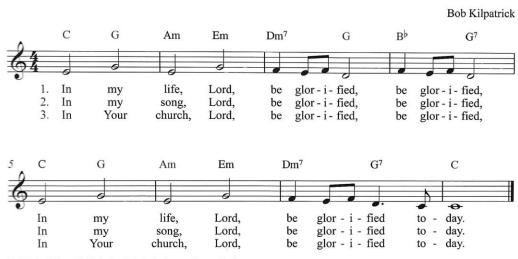
Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People Thanks be to God

#### **Sequence Hymn**

In My Life Lord

# Lord, Be Glorified



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The Gospel Mark 1:21-28

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

# People Glory to you, Lord Christ

Jesus and his disciples went to Capernaum; and when the sabbath came, he entered the synagogue and taught. They were astounded at his teaching, for he taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes. Just then there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit, and he cried out, "What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are, the Holy One of God." But Jesus rebuked him, saying, "Be silent, and come out of him!" And the unclean spirit, convulsing him and crying with a loud voice, came out of him. They were all amazed, and they kept on asking one another, "What is this? A new teaching—with authority! He commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey him." At once his fame began to spread throughout the surrounding region of Galilee.

The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

**Homily** 

**Rev. Annette Mayer** 

#### 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

We gather in your name, Jesus, because we know who you are. You know our deepest needs and weaknesses, and we look to you in hope.

# Hear our prayers, Holy One of God.

The world is hurting and restless for you, Lord. The earth is stressed and cries out for protection. Its peoples cry out in hunger and fear. We turn to you in need of deliverance.

Hear our prayers, Holy One of God.

We pray for your Church as it walks your Way of Life. May your people and their leaders know deeply your loving, liberating life-giving presence.

# Hear our prayers, Holy One of God.

We pray for those who govern all over the world, that they may pursue justice and practice peace. Equip them with the courage and resources to respond to the needs of their people. 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?

# Hear our prayers, Holy One of God.

For those who have lost their freedom to addiction, for those who wrestle with worry, for those who struggle with mobility, communication, and relationship. For those who are ill and facing surgery or treatments. For those who will soon give birth, and those who have lost a pregnancy. We look to you for care of all these to give them hope through your presence. We pray for those on our parish prayer list, 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 and George. Are there others?

# Hear our prayers, Holy One of God.

We commend to you the souls of those who have died and ask you to comfort those whose hearts ache with grief.

Hear our prayers, Holy One of God.

We pray for those celebrating birthdays, especially Suwatcha Ottinger, John Summers and Beth Lewis. Are there others?

# Hear our prayers, Holy One of God.

*Celebrant:* Loving and gracious Creator, from the beginning you have brightened our darkness with the light of your life: Let your vindication shine out like the dawn, and your salvation like a burning torch, that your Word made flesh may bring grace upon grace to all the earth, in the power of your Holy Spirit, 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** 

All the Ends of the Earth

by: Bob Hurd

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.

PeopleAnd also with you.CelebrantLift up your hearts.

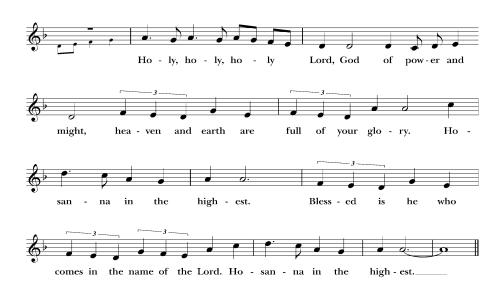
People We lift them to the Lord

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.

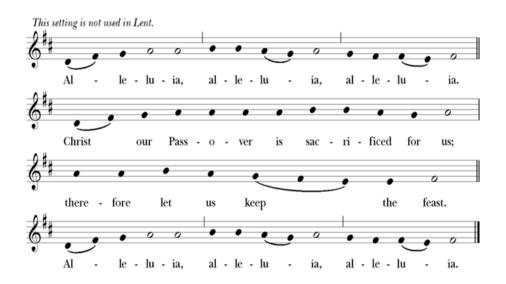
Pour out your Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Body and Blood of Christ. Breathe your Spirit over the whole earth and make us your new creation, the Body of Christ given for the world you have made. In the fullness of time bring us, with all your saints, from every tribe and language and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

Lord, make us servants

H 593

# **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**

#### 175

# They'll Know We Are Christians by Our Love



#### **Dismissal**

Deacon Let us bless the Lord **People** Thanks be to God.

# This month at Transfiguration:

Today	Adult Formation	Leach Hall	9:00am
	Holy Eucharist	Church/FB	10:00am
	Children's Formation		11:15am
	Coffee Hour hosted by the vestry	Leach Hall	11:15am
1/30	Silent Prayer	Church	5:30pm

#### **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**

The Stewardship Committee would like to spend the next number of months focusing on the time and talent aspect of stewardship. Each month we plan to highlight a "gift" and demonstrate how you can participate in ministries that come from sharing that gift. February is the "Gift of love and Action." Watch this space for more details.

I Corinthians 12:4-6 "There are different kinds of spiritual gifts, but they all come from the same spirit. There are different ways to serve the same Lord, and we can each do different things. Yet the same God works in all of us and helps us in everything we do!"

- **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 CATs ARE LOOSE and you just need to catch one. If you haven't already, please log on and complete your CAT survey. The deadline is 1/29/24. Any Search committee member can assist you if needed. Thank you for your input!

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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