

CHURCH OF THE

TRANSFIGURATION

LAST SUNDAY AFTER EPHIPHANY February 11, 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 HymnProcessionalPraise my soul the King of heavenH 410

Please stand as you are able.

CelebrantBlessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.PeopleAnd 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.

O God, who before the passion of your only-begotten Son revealed his glory upon the holy mountain: Grant to us that we, beholding by faith the light of his countenance, may be strengthened to bear our cross, and be changed into his likeness from glory to glory; 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

2 Kings 2:1-12

A reading from the book of Kings

When the LORD was about to take Elijah up to heaven by a whirlwind, Elijah and Elisha were on their way from Gilgal. Elijah said to Elisha, "Stay here; for the LORD has sent me as far as Bethel." But Elisha said, "As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So they went down to Bethel. The company of prophets who were in Bethel came out to Elisha, and said to him, "Do you know that today the LORD will take your master away from you?" And he said, "Yes, I know; keep silent."

Elijah said to him, "Elisha, stay here; for the LORD has sent me to Jericho." But he said, "As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So they came to Jericho. The company of prophets who were at Jericho drew near to Elisha, and said to him, "Do you know that today the LORD will take your master away from you?" And he answered, "Yes, I know; be silent."

Then Elijah said to him, "Stay here; for the LORD has sent me to the Jordan." But he said, "As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So the two of them went on. Fifty men of the company of

prophets also went, and stood at some distance from them, as they both were standing by the Jordan. Then Elijah took his mantle and rolled it up, and struck the water; the water was parted to the one side and to the other, until the two of them crossed on dry ground.

When they had crossed, Elijah said to Elisha, "Tell me what I may do for you, before I am taken from you." Elisha said, "Please let me inherit a double share of your spirit." He responded, "You have asked a hard thing; yet, if you see me as I am being taken from you, it will be granted you; if not, it will not." As they continued walking and talking, a chariot of fire and horses of fire separated the two of them, and Elijah ascended in a whirlwind into heaven. Elisha kept watching and crying out, "Father, father! The chariots of Israel and its horsemen!" But when he could no longer see him, he grasped his own clothes and tore them in two pieces.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people. *People Thanks be to God.*

Psalm 50:1-6



RCL Epiphany Last Psalm 50: 1-6

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1 The LORD, the God of gods, has spoken; * he has called the earth from the rising of the sun to its setting	ing.
 2 Out of Zion, perfect in its beauty, God reveals himself in glory. 3 Our God will come and will not keep silence; * before him there is a consuming flame, and round about him a raging storm. 	[ANT.]
 4 He calls the heavens and the earth from above * to witness the judgment of his people. 5 "Gather before me my loyal followers, * those who have made a covenant with me and sealed it with sacrifice." 	
6 Let the heavens declare the rightness of his cause; * for God himself is judge.	[ANT.]

The Epistle

2 Corinthians 4:3-6

A reading from the second letter of Paul to the Corinthians.

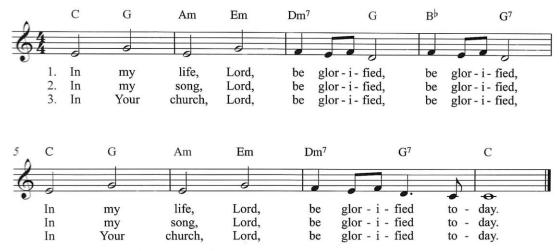
Even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. For we do not proclaim ourselves; we proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and ourselves as your slaves for Jesus' sake. For it is the God who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people. *People Thanks be to God*

Sequence Hymn

In My Life Lord

Bob Kilpatrick



Lord, Be Glorified

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The Gospel

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

People Glory to you, Lord Christ

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, 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.

As they were coming down the mountain, he ordered them to tell no one about what they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead.

The Gospel of the Lord.PeoplePraise 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

Let us hear your voice as we kneel in awe before you. May we not be the same, after recognizing your glory.

Merciful and gracious Lord, hear our prayer.

Speak to us of peace. Call us to work for justice and to care for the welfare of all your children: in our homes, in our workplaces, in our neighborhoods, in your Church, in the world. Shine your light in the dark places of our lives and in this world. We pray for those in the military and first responders, especially Alex, Anthony, Frank, Edilio, Sam, Michael, Alexander, Jacob, Will and their families. Are there others?

Merciful and gracious Lord, hear our prayer.

Call us to be a compassionate and prayerful presence for those whose hearts ache from grief, whose souls are weary or wounded. Overshadow us with your awesome presence. Walk down from the mountaintop with us, and walk before us into the places you would have us serve as witnesses to your healing and love. We pray for those in need of healing and support, 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, Tom, Kim, Derek, Barb, Rich, Sherrill, Sandy, Kathleen, Shane, George, Tom E. and Dory and Family Are there others?

Merciful and gracious Lord, hear our prayer.

We pray for those who have died. (Pause)

Merciful and gracious Lord, hear our prayer.

We pray for those celebrating birthdays, especially John Mayer, Anna Karrison, Mary Ellyn Staffel, Linda Kirby, Pat Jonikaitis and Sue Jarrell and for those celebrating anniversaries, especially Tony and Jeanne Preston. Are there others?

Merciful and gracious Lord, hear our prayer.

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

CelebrantThe Peace of the Lord be always with you.PeopleAnd 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

<u>Anniversary Prayer</u>

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.

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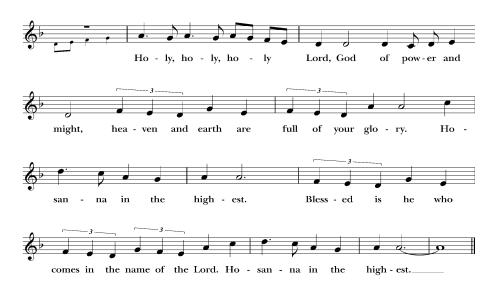
Celebrant	All things come of thee, O Lord.
People	And of thine own have we given thee.

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: Sanctus



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.

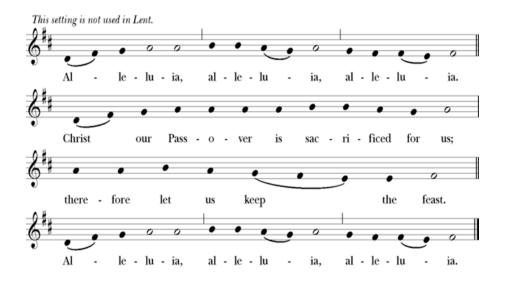
Pour out your Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Body and Blood of Christ. Breathe your Spirit over the whole earth and make us your new creation, the Body of Christ given for the world you have made. In the fullness of time bring us, with all your saints, from every tribe and language and 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	Fairest, Lord Jesus	H 383
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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	Now, thank we all our God	H 396
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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		
	Coffee Hour hosted by		
	Katherine Hamann		
2/13	Silent Prayer	Church	5:30pm
2/14	Ash Wednesday	Church	7:00pm
2/15	Jubilee Brainstorm session	Leach Hall	6:30pm
2/18	Adult Formation Holy Eucharist	Leach Hall Church/FB	9:00am 10:00am

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, Meghan, Jan, Bob, Michael, John, Bob, Billy, Laura, 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

- Ash Wednesday We will be doing ashes to go from 4:00pm to 5:00pm in the parking lot. The service will be at 7:00pm.
- 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.
- Help celebrate "Soup"er Bowl Sunday by attending our soup brunch. Our month of the Gift of Love and Action continues for the next two weeks with additional information on the Prayer Crosses and our Card Ministries.

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.

CHURCH OF THE TRANSFIGURATION 12219 S. 86TH AVE. PALOS PARK, IL

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