

CHURCH OF THE TRANSFIGURATION

FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT

March 10, 2023

**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.***

Celebrant Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.
People *His mercy endures forever*

Collect for Purity

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.

Lord have mercy

WLP 838

The musical score is written for voice and piano. It consists of two systems of music. The first system has a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The vocal line begins with a whole rest, followed by the lyrics "Lord, have mer - cy." The piano accompaniment provides harmonic support. The second system also has a vocal line and piano accompaniment. The vocal line continues with the lyrics "Christ, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy." The piano accompaniment continues with chords and moving lines. The score is in a key with two flats and a 2/2 time signature.

The Collect

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Let us pray

Gracious Father, whose blessed Son Jesus Christ came down from heaven to be the true bread which gives life to the world: Evermore give us this bread, that he may live in us, and we in him; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*



The Lessons

Please be seated.

The Old Testament

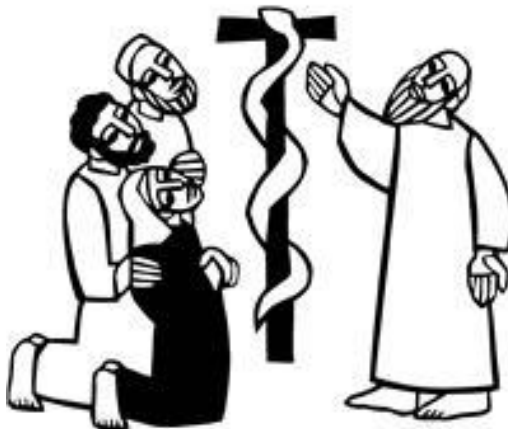
Numbers 21:4-9

A reading from the Book of Numbers

From Mount Hor the Israelites set out by the way to the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom; but the people became impatient on the way. The people spoke against God and against Moses, “Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and we detest this miserable food.” Then the LORD sent poisonous serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many Israelites died. The people came to Moses and said, “We have sinned by speaking against the LORD and against you; pray to the LORD to take away the serpents from us.” So Moses prayed for the people. And the LORD said to Moses, “Make a poisonous serpent, and set it on a pole; and everyone who is bitten shall look at it and live.” So Moses made a serpent of bronze, and put it upon a pole; and whenever a serpent bit someone, that person would look at the serpent of bronze and live.

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

People Thanks be to God.



Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22



- 1 Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good, *
and his mercy endures for ever.
- 2 Let all those whom the LORD has redeemed proclaim *
that he redeemed them from the hand of the foe.
- 3 He gathered them out of the lands; *
from the east and from the west,
from the north and from the south. [ANT.]
- 17 Some were fools and took to rebellious ways; *
they were afflicted because of their sins.
- 18 They abhorred all manner of food *
and drew near to death's door. [ANT.]
- 19 Then they cried to the LORD in their trouble, *
and he delivered them from their distress.
- 20 He sent forth his word and healed them *
and saved them from the grave. [ANT.]
- 21 Let them give thanks to the LORD for his mercy *
and the wonders he does for his children.
- 22 Let them offer a sacrifice of thanksgiving *
and tell of his acts with shouts of joy. [ANT.]

A reading from the letter to the Ephesians.

You were dead through the trespasses and sins in which you once lived, following the course of this world, following the ruler of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work among those who are disobedient. All of us once lived among them in the passions of our flesh, following the desires of flesh and senses, and we were by nature children of wrath, like everyone else. But God, who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which he loved us even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ-- by grace you have been saved-- and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, so that in the ages to come he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God-- not the result of works, so that no one may boast. For we are what he has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life.

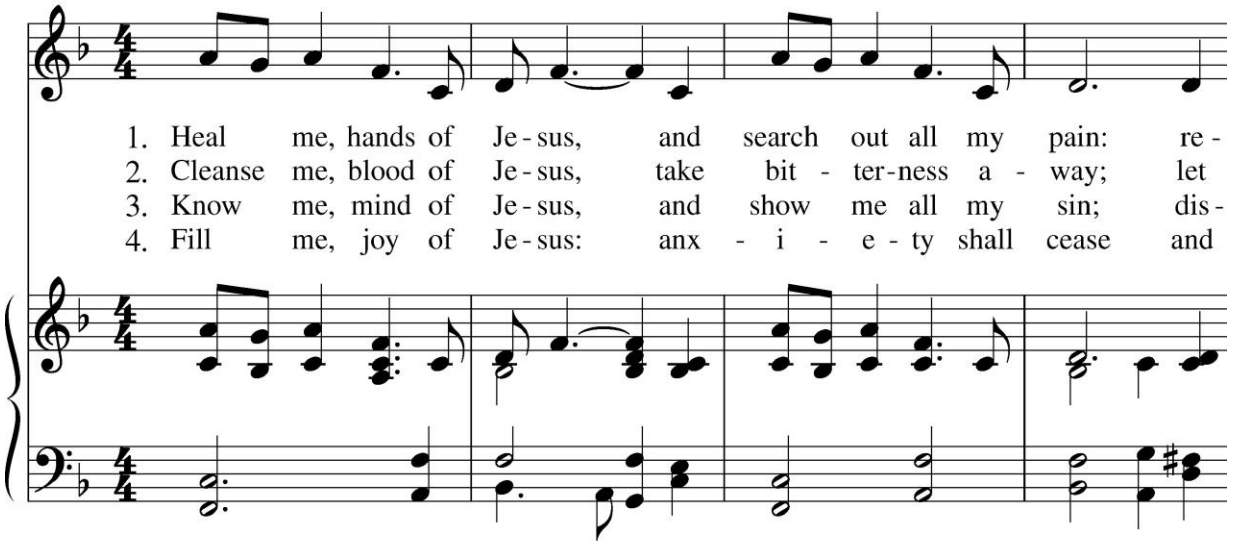
Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People Thanks be to God.



Sequence Hymn

Heal me, hands of Jesus



1. Heal me, hands of Je - sus, and search out all my pain: re -
2. Cleanse me, blood of Je - sus, take bit - ter-ness a - way; let
3. Know me, mind of Je - sus, and show me all my sin; dis -
4. Fill me, joy of Je - sus: anx - i - e - ty shall cease and



store my hope, re - move my fear and bring me peace a - gain.
me for - give as one for - given and bring me peace to - day.
pel the mem - o - ries of guilt, and bring me peace with - in.
heaven's se - ren - i - ty be mine, for Je - sus brings me peace!

The Gospel

John 3:14-21

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

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus said, “Just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

“For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

“Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. Those who believe in him are not condemned; but those who do not believe are condemned already, because they have not believed in the name of the only Son of God. And this is the judgment, that the light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil. For all who do evil hate the light and do not come to the light, so that their deeds may not be exposed. But those who do what is true come to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that their deeds have been done in God.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Sermon

The Rev. Jason Elliott

Please stand.

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.

The Prayers of the People

Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess your Name may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world.

Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.

Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace; that we may honor one another and serve the common good. 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?

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory.

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us. We pray for those celebrating birthdays this week, especially Rachel Smith and Dee Wagner and for those celebrating anniversaries. Are there others?

Lord in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation. We pray for all those on our parish prayer list, especially Chelsea, Marilyn, Chuck, Pam, Bill, Ed, Steven, Michael, Rich, Patrick, Annette, Christopher, Lorna, Pura, Cathy, Pam, Joe, Laura, Michael, Jude, Lois, Jack, Wayne, Chris, Tom, Kim, Derek, Barb, Sherrill, Kathleen, George, Tom E., Dory and her family, Rachel, Dawn, MaryAnne, and Stacye. Are there others?

Lord in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

We commend to your mercy all who have died, that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom.

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Celebrant

O Lord our God, accept the fervent prayers of your people; in the multitude of our mercies, look with compassion upon us and all who turn to you for help; for you are gracious, O lover of souls, and to you we give glory, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, now and for ever. ***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.

Absolution

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***

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.

Offertory Sentence

Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God.

Celebrant All things come of Thee oh 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

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

Through Jesus Christ our Lord; who was tempted in every way as we are, yet did not sin. By his grace we are able to triumph over every evil, and to live no longer for ourselves alone, but for him who died for us and rose again.

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

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord,

God of pow - er and might, Heav'n and

earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the

high - est. Blessed is the one who comes in the

name of the Lord. Ho - san-na in the high - est.

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself, and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, 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 many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Celebrant and People

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

The Celebrant continues

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ: 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 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,
for ever and ever. Amen.*

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread.

Celebrant *Christ our Passover has been sacrificed for us*
People *Therefore let us keep the feast*

Fraction Anthem

THIS IS THE BODY OF CHRIST

Words and Music by
John L. Bell

Gently $\text{♩} = \text{ca. } 72$

S, A

This is the bod - y of Christ,

T, B

The first system of music is for Soprano and Alto (S, A) and Tenor and Bass (T, B). It is in 3/8 time and begins with a treble clef for the upper part and a bass clef for the lower part. The lyrics are "This is the bod - y of Christ," with a long note on "Christ" that spans across the bar line.

5

bro - ken that we may be whole;

this cup, as

The second system of music continues the melody. It starts with a measure rest for 5 measures. The lyrics are "bro - ken that we may be whole;" and "this cup, as".

10

prom - ised by God, true to his word, cra - dles our

The third system of music continues the melody. It starts with a measure rest for 10 measures. The lyrics are "prom - ised by God, true to his word, cra - dles our".

15

Lord: food for the good of the soul.

The fourth system of music continues the melody. It starts with a measure rest for 15 measures. The lyrics are "Lord: food for the good of the soul.".

The Invitation to Communion

This is the table, not of the Church, but of Jesus Christ. It is made ready for those who love God and who want to love God more.

So come, you who have much faith and you who have little. You who have been here often, and you who have not been here for a long time or ever before. You who have tried to follow, and you who have failed.

Come. Not because the Church invites you. It is Christ who invites you to be know and fed here.

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

Communion Hymn

Amazing Grace

H 671

Post-Communion Prayer

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.

Sending of the Eucharistic Visitors

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

Deacon: Bow down before the Lord.

Look down in mercy, Lord, on your people who kneel before you; and grant that those whom you have nourished by your Word and Sacraments ***Amen.***

The blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. ***Amen.***

Closing Hymn

How wondrous and great

H 533

Deacon Let us go forth in the name of Christ

People Thanks be to God.

Today	Adult Formation	Leach Hall	9:00am
	Holy Eucharist	Church/FB	10:00am
	Children's Formation		11:15am
	Coffee Hour hosted by the Anderson sisters	Leach Hall	11:15am
3/12	Silent Prayer	Church	5:30pm
3/17	Adult Formation	Leach Hall	9:00am
	Holy Eucharist	Church/FB	10:00am
	Children's Formation		11:15am

This week at Transfiguration:

- **Thankyou everyone** for your generosity last Sunday. We collected \$417.00 for the Venezuelan families.
- The highlighted gift for March is the Gift of Helping a Stranger. Transfiguration has many opportunities for members to participate in sharing this gift. This month the Beds Plus program, the food pantries, and Shower the Shelter will be explained. If you are interested in participating in any of these programs, information will be available. This is the schedule: March 10, Zac – Beds+, March 17, Cheryl – food pantries and March 24, Shower the Shelter – Diann.
- During Lent, we are collecting supplies for PAWS Animal Shelter. A PAWS Wish List is posted on the collection bin in the foyer. Thank you so much for supporting this Lenten outreach project.
- The Daycare will be hosting their annual art show in April. They are currently asking the parents to donate items for raffle baskets; however, if anyone from the congregation is interested in donating an item, you may do so by putting your name on the appropriate sign-up sheet in the foyer.

All items are due by April 7 and can be placed on the chest freezer in the closet in Leach Hall. Everyone is also invited to attend the art show. Further details will be given closer to the event date. Please contact SueAnn with any questions.

- As Easter approaches and we look forward to decorating the altar with flowers in honor of the risen Christ. Donations are being accepted by the Altar Guild to purchase those flowers. A suggested donation of \$40 can be placed in an envelope found at the back of the church and put in the offering plate; please indicate on the envelope whether your donation is in celebration/thanksgiving or as a memorial to someone. Checks should be made out to Church of the Transfiguration, noting 'Easter Flowers' in the memo; or if you wish to give a donation to Altar Guild for supplies or special purchases (a banner, linens chalices etc), note 'Altar Guild' on the memo line. Thank you for your generous donations to enhance the beauty of our worship space...
- **Also, A QUICK REMINDER.** Please sign up for coffee hour. The nursery girls make the coffee, and simple instructions are emailed every week when you sign up. **THANK YOU ALL IN ADVANCE FOR DOING SO!!!!**
- **OUR BEDS PLUS** outreach program volunteers continue to pack lunch bags for the homeless shelters every other weekend. If you would like to make a contribution toward purchasing food items for this ministry plus make your check out to the church and write "Beds Plus" in the memo line. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Zack Ottinger at zottinger@gmail.com Please remember the other ministries we support; including the area Food Pantries and Shower the Shelter
- ***** Ushers, Readers and Eucharistic ministers** are needed for Sunday 10:00am services. Please sign-up on [RSVP.church](https://rsvp.church/).
<https://rsvp.church/r/qPGqaHff>.

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

- The Rt. Rev. Paula Clark. Bishop, bishop@episcopalchicago.org
- The Rev. Annette C. Mayer, Rector rector@transfigpalos.org
Cell: 817.845.4985
- The Rev. Jason Elliott, Deacon jasonagelliott@gmail.com Cell:
716.560.9718
- Beverly Opelka, Choir Director bev4642@att.net
- Jeff Otto, Music Director jstyles4@yahoo.com
- Debbie Trapp, Director of Children & Youth Ministries
trappsrus@sbcglobal.net
- Jodi Powers, Day Care and Learning Center, Director
ppedconnect@outlook.com
- Sue Ann Beardsley, Board President, Palos Park Episcopal Day Care &
Learning Ctr.
- Linda Hibberd, Parish Administrator admin@transfigpalos.org
- Rob Carr, Senior Warden whitelab12@comcast.net
- Zach Ottinger, Junior Warden zottinger@gmail.com
- Members of the Vestry: Diana Beardsley (djbeardsley722@gmail.com),
Mark Brticevich (mbrticevich@gmail.com), David Dawodu
(daviddawodu@gmail.com) Bryan Fish (bryanfish91@gmail.com),
Marian Higgins (mhiggins354@icloud.com), Erin Kelly
ephkelly@yahoo.com), Frank Kuzniewski
(kuzniewskif@epcusd401.org), Judy Stark (Judith.stark44@yahoo.com),
and John Carroll-Treasurer

