

THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE TRANSFIGURATION

THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2019
8:00 & 10:15 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!

What a joy it is that we are worshipping together today. If Episcopal worship is unfamiliar, do not be nervous about what to do during the liturgy – relax – and let the service unfold for you. Together in song and prayer we celebrate our life together in Christ.

You are invited to sign the guest book located on the hutch at the entrance to the building. Please fill out a Visitors & Newcomers card and hand it to the priest or an usher. There are other informational pamphlets located in that area. Please feel free to take whatever is of interest to you.

If you are interested in the Sacrament of Baptism, Confirmation, or being Received into the Episcopal Church please see Rev. Lu-Anne Conner.

Before you leave, please pray for us as we carry out the ministry of the love of God and service in our communities.

This congregation is committed to being an open, affirming and welcoming church to all who come here.

**The Church of the Transfiguration is a two-rule church
Love God, Love Each Other!**

Worship at 8:00 a.m. and 10:15 a.m.

Biblical Texts are from The New Revised Standard Version

Liturgical texts are from The Book of Common Prayer

Hymn selections are from The Hymnal 1982 and other approved sources.

*Hymns/songs are printed in the bulletin under One License #A-720467,
Rite Song Online, and St. James Music Press*

A reading from the Prophet Isaiah

11:1-10

A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse,
and a branch shall grow out of his roots.

The spirit of the LORD shall rest on him,
the spirit of wisdom and understanding,
the spirit of counsel and might,
the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD.

His delight shall be in the fear of the LORD.

He shall not judge by what his eyes see,
or decide by what his ears hear;

but with righteousness he shall judge the poor,
and decide with equity for the meek of the earth;

he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth,
and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.

Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist,
and faithfulness the belt around his loins.

The wolf shall live with the lamb,
the leopard shall lie down with the kid,

the calf and the lion and the fatling together,
and a little child shall lead them.

The cow and the bear shall graze,
their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.

The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp,
and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den.

They will not hurt or destroy
on all my holy mountain;

for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the LORD
as the waters cover the sea.

On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.

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

People ***Thanks be to God.***

- 1 Give the King your justice, O God, *
and your righteousness to the King's Son;
- 2 That he may rule your people righteously *
and the poor with justice;
- 3 That the mountains may bring prosperity to the people, *
and the little hills bring righteousness.
- 4 He shall defend the needy among the people; *
he shall rescue the poor and crush the oppressor.
- 5 He shall live as long as the sun and moon endure, *
from one generation to another.
- 6 He shall come down like rain upon the mown field, *
like showers that water the earth.
- 7 In his time shall the righteous flourish; *
there shall be abundance of peace till the moon shall be no more.
- 18 Blessed be the Lord GOD, the God of Israel, *
who alone does wondrous deeds!
- 19 And blessed be his glorious Name for ever! *
and may all the earth be filled with his glory.
Amen. Amen.

A Reading from the Letter to the Romans

15:4-13

Whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, so that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope. May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus, so that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. For I tell you that Christ has become a servant of the circumcised on behalf of the truth of God in order that he might confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written,

"Therefore I will confess you among the Gentiles,
and sing praises to your name";

and again he says,

"Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people";

and again,

"Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles,
and let all the peoples praise him";

and again Isaiah says,

"The root of Jesse shall come,
the one who rises to rule the Gentiles;
in him the Gentiles shall hope."

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

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

People ***Thanks be to God.***

The people stand.

Gospel Hymn

"Lo, how a rose e'er blooming"

Hymnal, #81

Celebrant The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew

3:1-12

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

In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near." This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said,

"The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:
'Prepare the way of the Lord,
make his paths straight.'"

Now John wore clothing of camel's hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then the people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out to him, and all the region along the Jordan, and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.

But when he saw many Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruit worthy of repentance. Do not presume to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our ancestor'; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.

"I baptize you with water for repentance, but one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and will gather his wheat into the granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

After the Gospel the Celebrant says

The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon

The Rev. Lu-Anne Conner

The Nicene Creed

BCP, pg. 358

*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 Second Sunday of Advent, Year A

Leader: As we anticipate the glorious birth of the Messiah, let us gather our prayers and thanksgivings as an offering of faith, responding, “O come, O come, Emmanuel.”

That we may confess our collusion with evil, turn from the wrong we have done, and recommit ourselves to a holy life; let us pray.

O come, O come, Emmanuel.

That righteousness may flourish throughout the legislative bodies of our nation, so that integrity overcomes the interests of special groups, and honesty the financial influence of the affluent; let us pray.

O come, O come, Emmanuel.

That we be given the faith to go into the wilderness of our time and culture, giving voice to the promises of Christ and the glory of his reign; let us pray.

O come, O come, Emmanuel.

That all people everywhere may choose to be washed through the water and fire of baptism, sharing in Christ’s death and united in his resurrection; let us pray.

O come, O come, Emmanuel.

That we may honor our children, whose keen sense of the mystery of faith leads us to a deeper understanding of the Eucharistic Meal, and the humility to share gifts of hope across all the tables of the world; let us pray.

O come, O come, Emmanuel.

That those who care for the sick may be given the strength to endure and the patience to carry on in the midst of trials, and that those who have died may rest in peace; let us pray.

O come, O come, Emmanuel.

In thanksgiving for programs and people who assist those troubled with alcoholism, gambling, and any addiction that holds our souls in bondage; let us pray.

O come, O come, Emmanuel.

In thanksgiving for those who are generous in their giving for the mission of the Church: its ministry and witness, its temporal responsibilities and spiritual treasures; let us pray.

O come, O come, Emmanuel.

As a people ever-watchful for the coming of the Messiah, let us continue our intercessions.

In the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer we pray for the people and ministry of Trinity Episcopal Church, St. Charles, and Tamsen, their priest; we pray for Wayne, our bishop, and Deon, our bishop-elect; in the Diocese of Lui in South Sudan we pray for the bishop of Lui and Archbishop of Amadi, Stephen Dokolo.

We pray for those on our prayer list: **Mike, Rich, Karen, Dan, Karen, Auggie, Jaime, Scott, Sarah, Diane, Judy, Mark, Fay, Joey, Sally, Jack, Don, Warren, Anthony, Gary, Ron, Jim, Toni, Colin, Rita, Diane, Kermit, Julie, Ashley, Linda, David, Daniel, the Reed family, the Scaggs family, Isaac Anthony, and Carl.** We give thanks for birthdays: John Purcell, Pam Fadler, Bette Hammond, and Mary Reed.

The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.

Intercessions Year A: Keyed to the Themes of the Revised Common Lectionary © 2011 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
First greet visitors, then new friends, then old friends!*

Welcome and Announcements

The Holy Communion

The Offertory

The Celebrant says an offertory sentence.

Representatives of the congregation bring the people's offering of bread and wine to the altar.

Offertory Anthem

Never Weather-Beaten Sail

Thomas Campion

*Never weather-beaten sail more willing bent to shore,
never tired pilgrim limbs affected slumber more,
Than my weary spirit now longs to fly out of my troubled breast:
O come quickly, sweetest Lord, and take my soul to rest!*

*Ever blooming are the joys of heav'n's high Paradise,
Old age deafs not there our ears nor vapour dims our eyes:
Glory there the sun outshines; whose beams the Blessèd only see:
O come quickly, come quickly, glorious Lord, and raise my soul to Thee!*

The people stand while money offerings are presented and placed on the altar. The following is said or sung when offerings are presented.

8:00 *Celebrant* All things come of thee, O Lord
People ***And of thine own have we given thee.***

10:15 **The Doxology** *(Please stand, as able)*

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

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 many 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 say,

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. 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.

Communion Hymn: "O day of peace that dimly shines"

Hymnal, # 597

Post Communion Prayer

BCP, pg. 365

*After Communion, 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 Sending of Eucharistic Visitors

The Eucharistic Visitors are invited to the altar to receive their kits.

The Blessing

Sending Hymn

“Lift up your heads, ye mighty gates”

Hymnal, # 436

The Dismissal

People Thanks be to God.

Postlude

**The Second Sunday of Advent
 Sunday, December 8, 2019
 Today's Ministers of Worship**

Celebrant & Preacher		The Rev. Lu-Anne Conner
Music Director		Dr. Thomas C. Lee
Lay Minister of the Day	8:00 a.m.	Rick MacIvor
	10:15 a.m.	Drew Lawless
Greeters		Brad Young, Mary Young
Ushers	8:00 a.m.	Gordon White
	10:15 a.m.	Ron Howden, Marsha Thompson
Lectors	8:00 a.m.	Kathy Furgason
	10:15 a.m.	Diane Schuster
Server/Acolyte	8:00 a.m.	Ann Ivory
	10:15 a.m.	Jon Sanders
Chalice Bearers	8:00 a.m.	Ann Ivory
	10:15 a.m.	Carole Connors, Kristin Darden
Altar Guild		Louise Howden, Paul Richardson, Sherri Richardson
Coffee Hour	8:00 a.m.	Sherri Richardson
	10:15 a.m.	Rosemary Bagin, Jennifer Kelly
Counters		Ron Howden, Sandy Taliaferro
Eucharistic Visitor		Lu-Anne Conner
Children's Chapel Leader		Alice Foster
Children's Chapel Assistant		Carol Moore
Nursery Worker		Laurie Mercurio
Nursery Assistant		Sandy Rafferty

This Week's Calendar

Sunday, December 8	The Second Sunday of Advent 8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite II 9:00 a.m. Adult Forum 9:45 a.m. Choir Practice 10:15 a.m. Children's Chapel 10:15 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite II Nursery available today 10:00 a.m., infant to age 3
Monday, December 9	6:30 p.m. Al-Anon Newcomers Meeting 7:00 p.m. Choral Arts Practice 7:30 p.m. Al-Anon Family Group Meeting
Tuesday, December 10	9-11 a.m. Sanctuary Clean-up 5:00 p.m. Laundry Love—Wentzville
Wednesday, December 11	10:00 a.m. Book Club 3:00 p.m. Bible Study 7:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal
Saturday, December 14	8:00 p.m. AA Meeting
Sunday, December 15	The Third Sunday of Advent 8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite II 9:00 a.m. Adult Forum 9:45 a.m. Choir Practice 10:15 a.m. Children's Chapel 10:15 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite II Nursery available today 10:00 a.m., infant to age 3

Announcements

Come to Adult Forum on the Four Sundays of Advent! Each Sunday we'll take a look at the Collect of the Day, one of the appointed readings for the day, and a hymn that will be sung at the 10:15 service. We'll enter into the spiritual richness of Advent together, exploring its themes of darkness and light; repentance and renewal; and the mystery of the Word made flesh, Jesus of Nazareth. All Adult Forums are held at 9:00 am on Sunday mornings in the Allen Room.

Today's Adult Forum will focus on the Second Sunday of Advent ("Merciful God, you sent your messengers the prophets ...")

Cleaning of the Sanctuary and Nave for Christmas: Tuesday, December 10th, 9 a.m. – 11 a.m. The Altar Guild appreciates any and all volunteers to beautify the Church for the Christmas season. Dusting, vacuuming in the Nave and Sanctuary and polishing of the Silver and Brass are on the agenda. Light food and beverages will be provided. The Sign Up sheet is on the Bulletin Board in the Narthex. Thank you in advance for your support.

Poinsettias: Please use the Sign Up sheet in the Narthex if you would like to purchase a Poinsettia (\$12) to place in the Nave for Christmas. The Christmas flower envelopes are available on the Coffee bar in the entry area. **Please sign up no later than December 15th** so we can acknowledge your gift in the Christmas bulletin.

Holiday "Cookie Fest" on Sunday, December 15th: Get ready to share your favorite Christmas cookies or holiday treats with your fellow parishioners! The Social Committee is again sponsoring a Cookie Fest after both services on Sunday, **December 15th**. We will provide the coffee, hot chocolate, hot tea and décor – you just need to bring a dozen or two of your favorite cookies – **homemade or store bought** – and a copy of the recipe if you wish to share it unless it is a well-guarded family secret! A sign-up sheet is posted on the bulletin board if you wish to bring cookies. All are welcome, with or without cookies; so plan on joining us for this festive Christmas season gathering!

Christmas for Children in St Charles County: Keep the children warm in our county by donating hats, mittens, gloves, scarfs, earmuffs, socks, and underwear for Christmas. Red & green containers will be in the Narthex to deposit your donations. All items are due by **December 15th**.

Come join the fun at this year's **ECM Gift Wrapping Party! Monday, December 16, 2019** from 11:00 am to 1:30 pm at Emmanuel Church (9 S. Bompert Avenue, Webster Groves,

63119). A light lunch will be provided; Please let Tammy Schuster know if you plan to attend. She will RSVP for Transfiguration.

Christmas Eve Services will be held at 4:00 pm and 8:00 pm on Tuesday December 24, 2019. There is a sign-up sheet on the Narthex bulletin board for liturgical volunteers for each service. There will be no service on Christmas Day.

Choral Arts Singers will present "Christmas Around the World" featuring songs from several countries at Assumption Chapel, 403 N Main St, O'Fallon at **3:00 pm Sunday, Dec 8**; and Wentzville United Methodist Church, 725 Wall St, Wentzville at **3:00 pm Sunday, Dec 15**.

Laundry Love Request for Donations: One way to support Laundry Love is by donating Laundry Supplies. We rely on your donations to off-set expenses of this growing ministry. The following supplies are the most needed to support the December and January Laundry Love locations. There is a sign-up sheet located on the bulletin board, so that we know what will be donated. Donations can be placed in the Laundry Basket near the bulletin board. Thank you!

- ❖ Liquid Laundry Detergent or Pods preferred -- Need six (6) bottles or / tubs of pods* (prefer pods as easier to transport)
- ❖ Liquid Softener (large size)—Need four (4) bottles

Birthdays and Anniversaries:

- December 9—John Purcell
- December 11—Pam Fadler
- December 12—Bette Hammond
- December 12—Mary Reed

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OPPORTUNITIES FOR GIVING

We are selecting one item each month that is sent to the deployed men and women of our military. For the month of **December**, we ask for **travel size (0.5 oz) deodorant**. Please leave the item(s) in the container marked "Support Our Troops" on the shelving in the narthex. *(As a reminder we are always looking for hotel size shampoo, conditioner, lotion, and soap/body wash)*

For the month of **December**, we are collecting **laundry detergent** for our neighbors at LINC in Wentzville. Remember the children at Love Inc. Please bring in your donations and drop them in the designated box in the entry area.

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Bulletin announcements: Must be sent to the church office by **2:00 p.m. on Wednesday** in order to be included in the Sunday bulletin.

Church Prayer List: Mike Parker, Rich Robison, Karen Proctor, Dan Loewe, Karen Owen, Auggie Powers, Jaime Lauck, Scott Leriche, Sarah Pryor, Diane Willard, Judy Kirby, Mark Ebert, Fay Wehmeyer, Joey Huber, Sally Klaskin, Jack Klaskin, Don Strom, Warren Opfer, Anthony Scorsone, Gary Jeffery, Ron Price, Jim Ebert, Toni Pelton, Colin McAdam, Rita McAdam, Diane Chappuis, Kermit Forbes, Julie Forbes, Ashley Kintz, Linda Wasmer, David Wasem, Daniel Smith, the Reed family, the Scaggs family, Isaac Anthony Mach Perez, and Carl Keehn.

Prayer List Policy: Names are published in the weekly bulletin for 4 weeks, after which time please call the church office, to keep the name on the bulletin prayer list.

Pray for those who are in the service of our country:

Michael Wehmeyer, son of Bob and Fay Wehmeyer, serving in the United States Air Force.

Michael Ducar, son of Steve and Judy Ducar, serving in the Marine Corps.

Mary Putnam, granddaughter of Mike Millfelt, serving as an interpreter in the Marine Corps.

Seamus Garrett, nephew of Alice Foster, serving in The United States Army.

David Wright, son of Richard and Anne Wright and grandson of Bob and Fay Wehmeyer, serving in the U.S. Air Force.

Shelby Aleksick, granddaughter of Roxane Jablonski, serving in the U.S. Army, attached to the 531st Field Hospital and the 101st Airborne Division.

Adam Smith, son of Daniel Smith, serving in the Missouri National Guard.

The Episcopal Church of the Transfiguration

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