

# THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE TRANSFIGURATION

ASH WEDNESDAY  
FEBRUARY 26, 2020  
HOLY EUCHARIST RITE II  
WITH IMPOSITION OF ASHES  
12:00 P.M. AND 7:00 P.M.



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 12:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.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 and RiteSong Online*

**Service for Ash Wednesday**  
According to the Book of Common Prayer

**Prelude**

*The people standing, the Celebrant says*

Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

BCP, pg. 355

**People**     *God's mercy endures forever.*

Let us pray.

BCP, pg. 264

Almighty and everlasting God, you hate nothing you have made and forgive the sins of all who are penitent: Create and make in us new and contrite hearts, that we, worthily lamenting our sins and acknowledging our wretchedness, may obtain of you, the God of all mercy, perfect remission and forgiveness; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. *Amen.*

**The Lessons**     *The people may be seated.*

**A Reading from the Prophet Isaiah**

58:1-12

Shout out, do not hold back!

Lift up your voice like a trumpet!

Announce to my people their rebellion,  
to the house of Jacob their sins.

Yet day after day they seek me  
and delight to know my ways,

as if they were a nation that practiced righteousness  
and did not forsake the ordinance of their God;

they ask of me righteous judgments,  
they delight to draw near to God.

"Why do we fast, but you do not see?

Why humble ourselves, but you do not notice?"

Look, you serve your own interest on your fast day,  
and oppress all your workers.

Look, you fast only to quarrel and to fight  
and to strike with a wicked fist.

Such fasting as you do today  
will not make your voice heard on high.

Is such the fast that I choose,  
a day to humble oneself?

Is it to bow down the head like a bulrush,  
and to lie in sackcloth and ashes?

Will you call this a fast,  
a day acceptable to the LORD?

Is not this the fast that I choose:  
to loose the bonds of injustice,  
to undo the thongs of the yoke,  
to let the oppressed go free,  
and to break every yoke?

Is it not to share your bread with the hungry,  
and bring the homeless poor into your house;  
when you see the naked, to cover them,  
and not to hide yourself from your own kin?

Then your light shall break forth like the dawn,  
and your healing shall spring up quickly;  
your vindicator shall go before you,  
the glory of the LORD shall be your rear guard.

Then you shall call, and the LORD will answer;  
you shall cry for help, and he will say, Here I am.

If you remove the yoke from among you,  
the pointing of the finger, the speaking of evil,  
if you offer your food to the hungry  
and satisfy the needs of the afflicted,  
then your light shall rise in the darkness  
and your gloom be like the noonday.

The LORD will guide you continually,  
and satisfy your needs in parched places,  
and make your bones strong;  
and you shall be like a watered garden,  
like a spring of water,  
whose waters never fail.

Your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt;  
you shall raise up the foundations of many generations;  
you shall be called the repairer of the breach,  
the restorer of streets to live in.

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

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

- 8 The Lord is full of compassion and mercy, \*  
slow to anger and of great kindness.
- 9 He will not always accuse us, \*  
nor will he keep his anger for ever.
- 10 He has not dealt with us according to our sins, \*  
nor rewarded us according to our wickedness.
- 11 For as the heavens are high above the earth, \*  
so is his mercy great upon those who fear him.
- 12 As far as the east is from the west, \*  
so far has he removed our sins from us.
- 13 As a father cares for his children, \*  
so does the Lord care for those who fear him.
- 14 For he himself knows whereof we are made; \*  
he remembers that we are but dust.

**A Reading from the Second Letter of Paul to the Corinthians**

5:20b–6:10

We entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God. As we work together with him, we urge you also not to accept the grace of God in vain. For he says, “At an acceptable time I have listened to you, and on a day of salvation I have helped you.” See, now is the acceptable time; see, now is the day of salvation! We are putting no obstacle in anyone’s way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry, but as servants of God we have commended ourselves in every way: through great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, beatings, imprisonments, riots, labors, sleepless nights, hunger; by purity, knowledge, patience, kindness, holiness of spirit, genuine love, truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left; in honor and dishonor, in ill repute and good repute. We are treated as impostors, and yet are true; as unknown, and yet are well known; as dying, and see—we are alive; as punished, and yet not killed; as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing everything.

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

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

**The Gospel**

*Celebrant* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

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

Jesus said, “Beware of practicing your piety before others in order to be seen by them; for then you have no reward from your Father in heaven. So whenever you give alms, do not sound a trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, so that they may be praised by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. But when you give alms, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, so that your alms may be done in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you. And whenever you pray, do not be like the hypocrites; for they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and at the street corners, so that they may be seen by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. But whenever you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you. And whenever you fast, do not look dismal, like the hypocrites, for they disfigure their faces so as to show others that they are fasting. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. But when you fast, put oil on your head and wash your face, so that your fasting may be seen not by others but by your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you. Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal; but store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.”

*After the Gospel the Celebrant says*

The Gospel of the Lord.

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

**The Sermon**

The Rev. Lu-Anne Conner

**An Invitation to a Holy Lent**

*The Celebrant says:*

Dear People of God:

The first Christians observed with great devotion the days of our Lord’s passion and resurrection, and it became the custom of the Church to prepare for them by a season of penitence and fasting.

This season of Lent provided a time in which converts to the faith were prepared for Holy Baptism. It was also a time when those who, because of notorious sins, had been separated from the body of the faithful were reconciled by penitence and forgiveness, and restored to the fellowship of the Church. Thereby, the whole congregation was put in mind of the message of pardon and absolution set forth in the Gospel of our Savior, and of the need which all Christians continually have to renew their repentance and faith.

I invite you, therefore, in the name of the Church, to the observance of a holy Lent, by self-examination and repentance; by prayer, fasting, and self-denial; and by reading and meditating on God's holy Word. And, to make a right beginning of repentance, and as a mark of our mortal nature, let us now kneel before the Lord, our maker and redeemer.

*Silence is then kept for a time, all kneeling (as able).*

*Then the Celebrant says the following prayer*

Almighty God, you have created us out of the dust of the earth: Grant that these ashes may be to us a sign of our mortality and penitence, that we may remember that it is only by your gracious gift that we are given everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Savior. *Amen.*

*The Congregation is now invited to come forward for the imposition of ashes.*

*The ashes are imposed with the following words*

Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return.

**Psalm 51**

*Miserere mei, Deus*

BCP, pg. 656

- 1 Have mercy on me, O God, according to your loving kindness; \*  
in your great compassion blot out my offenses.
- 2 Wash me through and through from my wickedness \*  
and cleanse me from my sin.
- 3 For I know my transgressions, \*  
and my sin is ever before me.
- 4 Against you only have I sinned \*  
and done what is evil in your sight.
- 5 And so you are justified when you speak \*  
and upright in your judgment.
- 6 Indeed, I have been wicked from my birth, \*  
a sinner from my mother's womb.
- 7 For behold, you look for truth deep within me, \*  
and will make me understand wisdom secretly.

- 8 Purge me from my sin, and I shall be pure; \*  
wash me, and I shall be clean indeed.
- 9 Make me hear of joy and gladness, \*  
that the body you have broken may rejoice.
- 10 Hide your face from my sins \*  
and blot out all my iniquities.
- 11 Create in me a clean heart, O God, \*  
and renew a right spirit within me.
- 12 Cast me not away from your presence \*  
and take not your holy Spirit from me.
- 13 Give me the joy of your saving help again \*  
and sustain me with your bountiful Spirit.
- 14 I shall teach your ways to the wicked, \*  
and sinners shall return to you.
- 15 Deliver me from death, O God, \*  
and my tongue shall sing of your righteousness, O God of my salvation.
- 16 Open my lips, O Lord, \*  
and my mouth shall proclaim your praise.
- 17 Had you desired it, I would have offered sacrifice; \*  
but you take no delight in burnt-offerings.
- 18 The sacrifice of God is a troubled spirit; \*  
a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.

## **Litany of Penitence**

*The Celebrant and People together, all kneeling (as able)*

***Most holy and merciful Father:***

***We confess to you and to one another, and to the whole communion of saints in heaven and on earth, that we have sinned by our own fault in thought, word, and deed; by what we have done, and by what we have left undone.***

*The Celebrant continues*

We have not loved you with our whole heart, and mind, and strength. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We have not forgiven others, as we have been forgiven.

***Have mercy on us, Lord.***

We have been deaf to your call to serve, as Christ served us. We have not been true to the mind



of Christ. We have grieved your Holy Spirit.

***Have mercy on us, Lord.***

We confess to you, Lord, all our past unfaithfulness: the pride, hypocrisy, and impatience of our lives,

***We confess to you, Lord.***

Our self-indulgent appetites and ways, and our exploitation of other people,

***We confess to you, Lord.***

Our anger at our own frustration, and our envy of those more fortunate than ourselves,

***We confess to you, Lord.***

Our intemperate love of worldly goods and comforts, and our dishonesty in daily life and work,

***We confess to you, Lord.***

Our negligence in prayer and worship, and our failure to commend the faith that is in us,

***We confess to you, Lord.***

Accept our repentance, Lord, for the wrongs we have done: for our blindness to human need and suffering, and our indifference to injustice and cruelty,

***Accept our repentance, Lord.***

For all false judgments, for uncharitable thoughts toward our neighbors, and for our prejudice and contempt toward those who differ from us,

***Accept our repentance, Lord.***

For our waste and pollution of your creation, and our lack of concern for those who come after us,

***Accept our repentance, Lord.***

Restore us, good Lord, and let your anger depart from us;

***Favorably hear us, for your mercy is great.***

Accomplish in us the work of your salvation,

***That we may show forth your glory in the world.***

By the cross and passion of your Son our Lord,

***Bring us with all your saints to the joy of his resurrection.***

*The Priest stands and, facing the people, says*

Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who desires not the death of sinners, but rather that they may turn from their wickedness and live, has given power and commandment to

his ministers to declare and pronounce to God's people, being penitent, the absolution and remission of their sins. He pardons and absolves all those who truly repent, and with sincere hearts believe his holy Gospel.

Therefore we beseech God to grant us true repentance and the Holy Spirit, that those things may please him which we do on this day, and that the rest of our life hereafter may be pure and holy, so that at the last we may come to his eternal joy; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

## **The Peace**

*Celebrant* The peace of the Lord be always with you.

*People* ***And also with you.***

*Then the Ministers and People may greet one another in the name of the Lord.*

*First greet new visitors, then new friends, then old friends.*

## **Welcome & Announcements**

### **The Holy Communion**

#### **The Offertory**

*The Celebrant says an offertory sentence.*

*You may place your offering in the plate in the rear of the sanctuary following the service.*

**7:00p.m. Offertory Anthem** "Wilt thou forgive" John Hilton

**The Great Thanksgiving, Eucharistic Prayer A** BCP, pg. 361

*The people remain standing. The Celebrant says*

*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 God thanks and praise.*

*The Celebrant proceeds*

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere 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*

***Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.***

***Hosanna in the highest.***

***Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.***

***Hosanna in the highest.***

*The Celebrant continues*

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.

*People*        **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

*Celebrant*    Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

*People*        ***Therefore let us keep the feast.***

*Celebrant and People Together*

***Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:  
have mercy on us.***

***Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:  
have mercy on us.***

***Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:  
grant us peace.***

*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.*

**Post Communion Prayer**

BCP, pg. 366

*After Communion, the Celebrant says*

Let us pray.

*Celebrant and People*

***Almighty and everliving God,  
we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food  
of the most precious Body and Blood  
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ;  
and for assuring us in these holy mysteries  
that we are living members of the Body of your Son,  
and heirs of your eternal kingdom.  
And now, Father, send us out  
to do the work you have given us to do,  
to love and serve you  
as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord.  
To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit,  
be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.***

*In Lent, in place of a seasonal blessing, a solemn Prayer over the People is used*

*Celebrant* Let us bow down before the Lord.

*The people kneel or bow their heads, and the Celebrant says*

Grant, most merciful Lord, to your faithful people pardon and peace, that they may be cleansed from all their sins, and serve you with a quiet mind; through Christ our Lord.

*People* ***Amen.***

**Sending Hymn**

“Lord, who throughout these forty days”

Hymnal, #142

*The Celebrant dismisses the people with these words*

*Celebrant* Let us bless the Lord.

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

**Ash Wednesday  
February 26, 2020  
Today's Ministers of Worship**

**Celebrant & Preacher  
Music Director**

The Rev. Lu-Anne Conner  
Dr. Thomas C. Lee

**Ushers**

12:00 p.m.  
7:00 p.m.

Kristin Darden  
Alice Foster

**Lectors**

12:00 p.m.  
7:00 p.m.

Bette Hammond  
Alice Foster

**Servers**

12:00 p.m.  
7:00 p.m.

Pam Fadler  
Dave Malek

**Chalice Bearers**

12:00 p.m.  
7:00 p.m.

Don Hammond  
Carole Connors

## **The Episcopal Church of the Transfiguration**

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