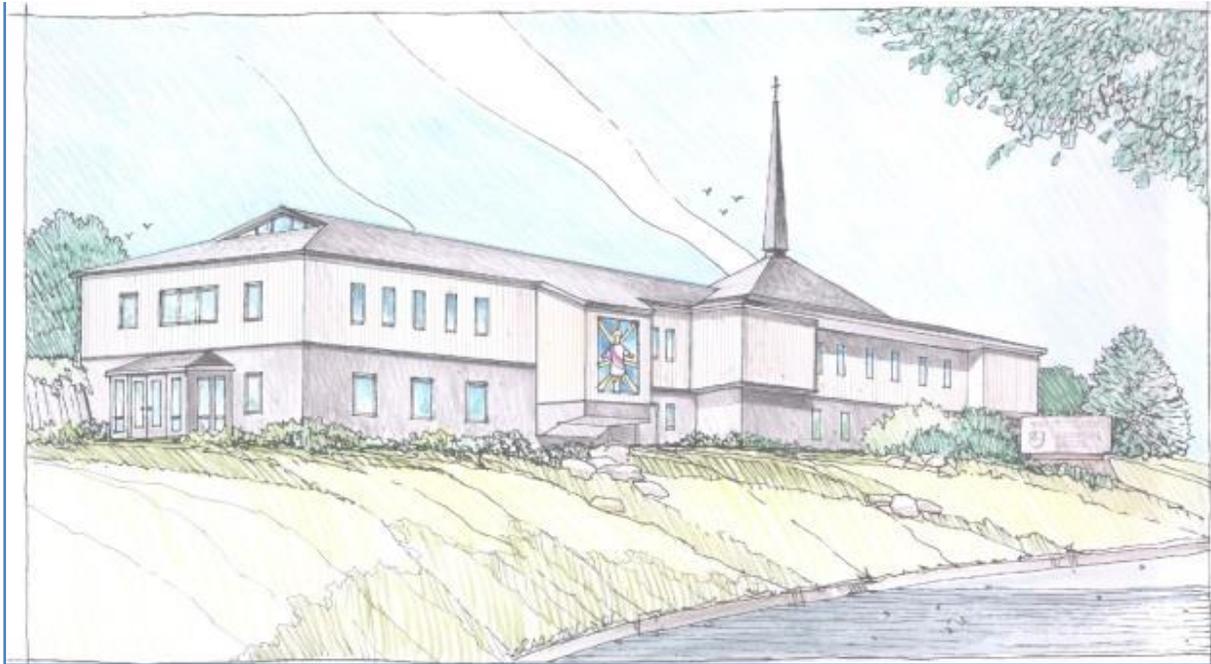


# THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE TRANSFIGURATION

THE FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2020



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.

## The Holy Eucharist, Rite Two

### Rector's welcome and announcements

#### Prelude

*Prelude in C Major, BWV 846 a*  
From The Well Tempered Clavier

J. S. Bach

### The Word of God

*The people standing, the Officiant says*

Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

BCP, pg. 355

*People And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen*

*The Officiant then says the Collect for Purity*

BCP, pg. 355

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.

*People Amen.*

#### The Gloria

BCP, pg. 356

*Glory to God in the highest,  
and peace to his people on earth.*

*Lord God, heavenly King,  
almighty God and Father,  
we worship you, we give you thanks,  
we praise you for your glory.*

*Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,  
Lord God, Lamb of God,  
you take away the sin of the world:  
have mercy on us;  
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:  
receive our prayer.*

*For you alone are the Holy One,  
you alone are the Lord,  
you alone are the Most High,  
Jesus Christ,  
with the Holy Spirit,*

*in the glory of God the Father. Amen.*

**The Collect of the Day**

BCP, pg. 233

*Officiant* The Lord be with you.

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

*Officiant* Let us pray.

O God, because without you we are not able to please you, mercifully grant that your Holy Spirit may in all things direct and rule our hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. ***Amen.***

*The people may be seated.*

**A Reading from the Book of Genesis**

50:15-21

Realizing that their father was dead, Joseph's brothers said, "What if Joseph still bears a grudge against us and pays us back in full for all the wrong that we did to him?" So they approached Joseph, saying, "Your father gave this instruction before he died, 'Say to Joseph: I beg you, forgive the crime of your brothers and the wrong they did in harming you.' Now therefore please forgive the crime of the servants of the God of your father." Joseph wept when they spoke to him. Then his brothers also wept, fell down before him, and said, "We are here as your slaves." But Joseph said to them, "Do not be afraid! Am I in the place of God? Even though you intended to do harm to me, God intended it for good, in order to preserve a numerous people, as he is doing today. So have no fear; I myself will provide for you and your little ones." In this way he reassured them, speaking kindly to them.

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

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

**Psalm 103:8-13**

*Benedic, anima mea*

BCP, pg. 733-4

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.

**A Reading from Paul's Letter to the Romans**

14:1-12

Welcome those who are weak in faith, but not for the purpose of quarreling over opinions. Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgment on those who eat; for God has welcomed them. Who are you to pass judgment on servants of another? It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand.

Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. Those who observe the day, observe it in honor of the Lord. Also those who eat, eat in honor of the Lord, since they give thanks to God; while those who abstain, abstain in honor of the Lord and give thanks to God.

We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.

Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God. For it is written,

"As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me,  
and every tongue shall give praise to God."

So then, each of us will be accountable to God.

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

*People*      ***Thanks be to God.***

*The people stand.*

**Gospel Hymn***Come Down, O Love Divine*

Hymn # 516

Text: Bianco de Siena (d. 1434?)

Translated by Richard Frederick Littledale

Music: Ralph Vaughan Williams

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

18:21-35

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

Peter came and said to Jesus, “Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?” Jesus said to him, “Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.

“For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.’ And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, ‘Pay what you owe.’ Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you.’ But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. Then his lord summoned him and said to him, ‘You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?’ And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart.”

*After the Gospel the Celebrant says*

The Gospel of the Lord.

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

David J. Malek

**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 Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost, Year A**

*Leader:* Rejoice in the waters of life, those who honor God in all things, and raise your voices in prayer, responding, "Lord, hear our prayer."

In thanksgiving for this holy day where we gather as a household of faith to hear the word of God with open minds and grateful hearts; let us pray.

*Lord, hear our prayer.*

In thanksgiving for the arms of forgiveness that embrace us in the midst of our sin, leading us to repentance, and filling us with the waters of mercy through which we will forgive others; let us pray.

***Lord, hear our prayer.***

For honesty in government, and integrity in our dealings with one another, that trust may be restored between people and throughout the institutions of our society; let us pray.

***Lord, hear our prayer.***

That we may commit ourselves to a life of simplicity, so that we may provide for the needs of the poor and hungry, as Jesus provided nourishment and hope to his followers; let us pray.

***Lord, hear our prayer.***

That we may share our spiritual doubts with one another, convinced that in our mutual self-disclosure we will be strengthened in faith and grow in the conviction that God's love can forgive all things and transforms all life; let us pray.

***Lord, hear our prayer.***

In thanksgiving for those who are teachers and catechists in our Church; may they be given the blessing of knowledge and wisdom, as they bear the Christian message to those in their charge; let us pray.

***Lord, hear our prayer.***

That the dead may be redeemed from the grave, and wear the crown of eternal life; remembering especially Joan Bowman, mother of Lisa Bowman and grandmother of Maura Anderson, who died last week; let us pray.

***Lord, hear our prayer.***

For all who suffer from COVID-19, for their families and friends, and those who care for them. May suffering be relieved and health restored; and may we have the courage to curtail our usual daily activities so that lives might continue to be saved; let us pray.

***Lord, hear our prayer.***

Praising God for the many gifts we have received, let us continue our prayers.

In the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer we pray for the people and ministry of St. Alban's Episcopal Church, Fulton, and their interim priest; we pray for Deon, our bishop; in our companion Diocese of Lui in South Sudan we pray for Lanyi Parish, and Charles, their priest.

We pray for those on our prayer list: *Karen, Judy, Joey, Sally, Jack, Don, Carl, Annette, Ed, Verla, Richard, Charley, Matthew, Joan, Audra, Dan, Nicole, Toni, Jim, Kathy, John, Terry, the Brinker family, Laura, Meghan, Mike, Mack, Andrew, MaryBeth, Robyn, Bob, and Dan.* We give thanks for birthdays: Ed Connors, Ken Stabenow, Gregory Barnett; and anniversaries: Don & Bette Hammond.

Altar flowers today were given by Kerry Quinlisk in celebration of the marriage of Peter Quinlisk and Sarah Simers.

*Adapted from Intercessions Year A: Keyed to the Themes of the Revised Common Lectionary © 2011 by GERALYN WOLF.*

*The Officiant says a concluding collect.*

### **Confession of Sin and Absolution**

BCP, pg. 360

*The Officiant says*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Silence may be kept.*

*Officiant 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**

*Officiant* The peace of the Lord be always with you.  
*People* ***And also with you.***

## **The Holy Communion**

### **The Offertory**

*The Officiant says an offertory sentence.*

**Offertory Hymn**                    *All Creatures of our God and King*                    Hymnal, #400 (Verses 1-5 only)  
text by: St. Francis of Assisi (1182-1226),  
translation by William H. Draper  
music: anon. from a German Catholic Hymnal, 1632

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

## **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.

For by water and the Holy Spirit you have made us a new people in Jesus Christ our Lord, to show forth your glory in all the world.

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. ***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.***

### **Music for Contemplation**

Thomas Lee

### **The Blessing**

### **The Dismissal**

*Celebrant* Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.  
*People* ***Thanks be to God.***

### **Postlude**

*Fugue in C Major, BWV 846 b*  
From *The Well Tempered Clavier*

Ludwig van Beethoven

*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.*

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