

THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE TRANSFIGURATION

THE SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 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, Enriching Our Worship

Rector's welcome and announcements

Prelude

Variations on Nettleton
(Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing)

Thomas Lee

The Word of God

The people standing, the Officiant says

Blessed be the one, holy, and living God.

EOW p. 50

People ***Glory to God for ever and ever.***

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. 234

Officiant The Lord be with you.

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

Officiant Let us pray.

O God, you declare your almighty power chiefly in showing mercy and pity: Grant us the fullness of your grace, that we, running to obtain your promises, may become partakers of your heavenly treasure; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. ***Amen.***

The people may be seated.

A Reading from the Prophet Ezekiel

18:1-4, 25-32

The word of the LORD came to me: What do you mean by repeating this proverb concerning the land of Israel, “The parents have eaten sour grapes, and the children’s teeth are set on edge”? As I live, says the Lord GOD, this proverb shall no more be used by you in Israel. Know that all lives are mine; the life of the parent as well as the life of the child is mine: it is only the person who sins that shall die.

Yet you say, “The way of the Lord is unfair.” Hear now, O house of Israel: Is my way unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair? When the righteous turn away from their righteousness and commit iniquity, they shall die for it; for the iniquity that they have committed they shall die. Again, when the wicked turn away from the wickedness they have committed and do what is lawful and right, they shall save their life. Because they considered and turned away from all the transgressions that they had committed, they shall surely live; they shall not die. Yet the house of Israel says, “The way of the Lord is unfair.” O house of Israel, are my ways unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair?

Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, all of you according to your ways, says the Lord GOD. Repent and turn from all your transgressions; otherwise iniquity will be your ruin. Cast away from you all the transgressions that you have committed against me, and get yourselves a new heart and a new spirit! Why will you die, O house of Israel? For I have no pleasure in the death of anyone, says the Lord GOD. Turn, then, and live.

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

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

- 1 To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul;
my God, I put my trust in you; *
let me not be humiliated,
nor let my enemies triumph over me.
- 2 Let none who look to you be put to shame; *
let the treacherous be disappointed in their schemes.
- 3 Show me your ways, O LORD, *
and teach me your paths.
- 4 Lead me in your truth and teach me, *
for you are the God of my salvation;
in you have I trusted all the day long.
- 5 Remember, O LORD, your compassion and love, *
for they are from everlasting.
- 6 Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions; *
remember me according to your love
and for the sake of your goodness, O LORD.
- 7 Gracious and upright is the LORD; *
therefore he teaches sinners in his way.
- 8 He guides the humble in doing right *
and teaches his way to the lowly.

A Reading from Paul's Letter to the Philippians

2:1-13

If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,

who, though he was in the form of God,
did not regard equality with God
as something to be exploited,
but emptied himself,
taking the form of a slave,
being born in human likeness.
And being found in human form,
he humbled himself
and became obedient to the point of death--
even death on a cross.

Therefore God also highly exalted him
and gave him the name
that is above every name,
so that at the name of Jesus
every knee should bend,
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,
and every tongue should confess
that Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.

Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence, but much more now in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

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

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

The people stand.

Gospel Hymn*Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing*Hymnal, #686
text: Robert Robinson
music: J. Wythe's *Repository of Music* Part II, 1813

Celebrant The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew
People ***Glory to you, Lord Christ.***

21:23-32

When Jesus entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching, and said, "By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?" Jesus said to them, "I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?" And they argued with one another, "If we say, 'From heaven,' he will say to us, 'Why then did you not believe him?' But if we say, 'Of human origin,' we are afraid of the crowd; for all regard John as a prophet." So they answered Jesus, "We do not know." And he said to them, "Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things.

"What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, 'Son, go and work in the vineyard today.' He answered, 'I will not'; but later he changed his mind and went. The father went to the second and said the same; and he answered, 'I go, sir'; but he did not go. Which of the two did the will of his father?" They said, "The first." Jesus said to them, "Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. For John came to you in the way of righteousness and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him; and even after you saw it, you did not change your minds and believe him.

After the Gospel the Celebrant says

People The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon

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 Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost, Year A

Leader: In turning to the ways of God our lives are saved from the grip of the Evil One, and the humility of love lightens our path. We offer our prayers, responding, "Lord, hear our prayer."

For the grace to move from grumbling to shared responsibility, from accusation to a search for truth, from humiliation and shame to God's compassion and mercy; let us pray.

Lord, hear our prayer.

That we may bear witness to the wonderful works of God, so that our children and the generations to come may walk in the path of faith and announce the mystery of faith through their lives; let us pray.

Lord, hear our prayer.

That we may bend the knee of our hearts to those who live in despair and great need, knowing that they are Christ to us, a gift of the Holy Spirit who fills us with compassion, and transforms the way we live; let us pray.

Lord, hear our prayer.

For those who work at night, staying awake while others sleep, guarding our streets, and healing the sick, that they may labor in safety and receive the rest that prepares them for another round; let us pray.

Lord, hear our prayer.

For our President, his advisors, the members of Congress and the Supreme Court, that they may be honest and vigilant in their duties, knowing that their decisions affect the peoples of our land, and of the nations of the world; let us pray.

Lord, hear our prayer.

For those who have died and now reside on another shore and in a greater light, that their faith may inspire our own, and their generosity encourage the way in which we use our gifts; 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.

Let us continue our prayers for all who live in the shadows of life, and those who have commended themselves to our prayers.

In the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer we pray for the people and ministry of All Saint's Episcopal Church, Farmington, and Richard, their Vicar; we pray for Deon, our bishop; in our companion Diocese of Lui in South Sudan we pray for Singiringwa Parish, and Elinatana, their priest.

We pray for those on our prayer list: ***Karen, Judy, Joey, Sally, Jack, Don, Carl, Annette, Ed, Verla, Richard, Charley, Matthew, Audra, Dan, Nicole, Toni, Jim, Kathy, John, Terry, the Brinker family, Laura, Meghan, Mack, Andrew, MaryBeth, Robyn, Bob, Dan, and Ron.***
We give thanks for birthdays: Steve Okumu.

Altar flowers for today were given by Jeanette Hollmann in celebration of the birthday of her husband, Ernie Hollmann.

The Officiant says a concluding collect.

Confession of Sin and Absolution

EOW p. 56

The Officiant says

Let us confess our sins to God.

Silence may be kept.

Officiant 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

The Celebrant says

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

Officiant The peace of Christ be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

The Holy Communion

The Offertory

The Officiant says an offertory sentence.

Offertory Hymn

At the Name of Jesus

Hymnal, #435

text by: Caroline Maria Noel

music by: Ralph Vaughn Williams

Celebrant All things come of thee, O Lord

People ***And of thine own have we given thee.***

The Great Thanksgiving, Eucharistic Prayer 2

EOW pp. 60-62

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 our thanks and praise.***

Celebrant

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 say:

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 the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

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.

At the following words concerning the bread, the Celebrant is to hold it, or lay a hand upon it; and at the words concerning the cup, to hold or place a hand upon the cup and any other vessel containing the wine to be consecrated.

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,

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

A Prayer of Thanksgiving *(said by all)*

Lord of the Feast, we thank you for gathering us as your people. We call to remembrance the many times we have been fed at your table and we lament our distance now. Be present Lord Jesus as you were present with your disciples, be known to us in the breaking of the bread, and may your Holy Spirit sustain us and all your Church until we can gather together again. We ask this for the sake of your love. Amen.

The Blessing

The Dismissal

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

Postlude

Fugue in C Major

Dietrich Buxtehude

Biblical Texts are from The New Revised Standard Version

Liturgical texts are from The Book of Common Prayer, and Enriching Our Worship 1.

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

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The score for Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing is from Hymnody.org