

The Episcopal Church *of the* Transfiguration

The Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 21, 2025

8:00 & 10:00 AM

Honoring God's Creation



Transfiguration window, located in the stairwell

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 II



10:00 am **THE GATHERING HYMN**

At the Name of Jesus

Hymnal, #435

THE WORD OF GOD

Please rise in body or in spirit. The celebrant invites the people to a few moments of intentional breathing.

The Officiant says

Ps 118:24

This is the day the Lord has made.

People **Let us rejoice and be glad in it.**

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.**

8:00 am **Glory to God**

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.**

Refrain



All things bright and beau - ti - ful, all crea-tures great and small,
all things wise and won - der - ful, the Lord God made them all.



1 Each lit - tle flower that o - pens, each lit - tle bird that sings,
2 The pur - ple - head - ed moun-tain, the riv - er run - ning by,
3 The cold wind in the win - ter, the pleas - ant sum - mer sun,
4 He gave us eyes to see them, and lips that we might tell



Repeat Refrain

he made their glow-ing col - ors, he made their ti - ny wings.
the sun - set, and the morn - ing that bright-ens up the sky,
the ripe fruits in the gar - den, he made them ev - ery one.
how great is God Al - might - y, who has made all things well.

Words: Cecil Frances Alexander (1818-1895). Music: *Royal Oak*, melody from *The Dancing Master*, 1686; adapt. and harm. Martin Fallas Shaw (1875-1958), desc. Richard Proulx (b. 1937). Used by arrangement with G. Schirmer, Inc. Descant, Copyright © 1979, G.I.A. Publications, Inc.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

BCP, pg. 234

Officiant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Officiant Let us pray.

Grant us, Lord, not to be anxious about earthly things, but to love things heavenly; and even now, while we are placed among things that are passing away, to hold fast to those that shall endure; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Said together:

PRAYER FOR THE KNOWLEDGE OF GOD'S CREATION

BCP, pg. 827

Almighty and everlasting God, you made the universe with all its marvelous order, its atoms, worlds, and galaxies, and the infinite complexity of living creatures: Grant that, as we probe the mysteries of your creation, we may come

***to know you more truly, and more surely fulfill our role in your eternal purpose;
in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.***

The people may be seated.

THE READINGS

A READING FROM THE BOOK OF AMOS

8:4-7

Hear this, you that trample on the needy,
and bring to ruin the poor of the land,
saying, "When will the new moon be over
so that we may sell grain;
and the sabbath,
so that we may offer wheat for sale?
We will make the ephah small and the shekel great,
and practice deceit with false balances,
buying the poor for silver
and the needy for a pair of sandals,
and selling the sweepings of the wheat."
The LORD has sworn by the pride of Jacob:
Surely I will never forget any of their deeds.

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

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

PSALM 113

Laudate, pueri

BCP, pg. 756

- 1 Hallelujah!
Give praise, you servants of the LORD; *
praise the Name of the LORD.
- 2 Let the Name of the Lord be blessed, *
from this time forth for evermore.
- 3 From the rising of the sun to its going down *
let the Name of the Lord be praised.
- 4 The Lord is high above all nations, *
and his glory above the heavens.
- 5 Who is like the Lord our God, who sits enthroned on high *
but stoops to behold the heavens and the earth?
- 6 He takes up the weak out of the dust *
and lifts up the poor from the ashes.

- 7 He sets them with the princes, *
with the princes of his people.
- 8 He makes the woman of a childless house *
to be a joyful mother of children.

A READING FROM THE FIRST LETTER OF PAUL TO TIMOTHY

2:1-7

First of all, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for everyone, for kings and all who are in high positions, so that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and dignity. This is right and is acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, who desires everyone to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. For

there is one God;
there is also one mediator between God and humankind,
Christ Jesus, himself human,
who gave himself a ransom for all

-- this was attested at the right time. For this I was appointed a herald and an apostle (I am telling the truth, I am not lying), a teacher of the Gentiles in faith and truth.

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Please rise in body or in spirit.

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

16:1-13

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

Jesus said to the disciples, "There was a rich man who had a manager, and charges were brought to him that this man was squandering his property. So he summoned him and said to him, 'What is this that I hear about you? Give me an accounting of your management, because you cannot be my manager any longer.' Then the manager said to himself, 'What will I do, now that my master is taking the position away from me? I am not strong enough to dig, and I am ashamed to beg. I have decided what to do so that, when I am dismissed as manager, people may welcome me into their homes.' So, summoning his master's debtors one by one, he asked the first, 'How much do you owe my master?' He answered, 'A hundred jugs of olive oil.' He said to him, 'Take your bill, sit down quickly, and make it fifty.' Then he asked another, 'And how much do you owe?' He replied, 'A hundred containers of wheat.' He said to him, 'Take your bill and make it eighty.' And his master commended the dishonest manager because he had acted shrewdly; for the children of this age are more shrewd in dealing with their own generation than are the children of light. And I tell you, make friends for yourselves by means of dishonest wealth so that when it is gone, they may welcome you into the eternal homes.

"Whoever is faithful in a very little is faithful also in much; and whoever is dishonest in a very little is dishonest also in much. If then you have not been faithful with the dishonest wealth, who will entrust to you the true riches? And if you have not been faithful with what belongs to another, who will give you what is your own? No slave can serve two masters; for a slave will either hate the one and love the other, or be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth."

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

Please rise in body or in spirit.

***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 C

Jesus is the one mediator between heaven and earth. In thanksgiving for his loving sacrifice, we offer our prayers, responding, "Help us choose life."

For a desire to share God's generous and abundant gifts to us, by giving generously and joyously to the ministry and mission of the Church; Lord in your mercy,

Help us choose life.

That we use our money wisely, giving to present needs, saving for the future, refraining from the lure of unnecessary purchases, so that we may contribute to those in need, and support programs that spread the vision of God's kingdom; Lord in your mercy,

Help us choose life.

That all who hold positions of public trust and church leadership may be good stewards of the resources entrusted to their care; Lord in your mercy,

Help us choose life.

That those in St. Louis affected by the May 16 tornado may be renewed in spirit as they seek to rebuild their homes, their lives, and their livelihoods; and may all who labor with them be blessed and strengthened in their efforts; Lord in your mercy,

Help us choose life.

In thanksgiving for those who have died with the love of Christ in their hearts, that they may join with the saints in offering constant intercession for those who dwell on earth; Lord in your mercy,

Help us choose life.

In thanksgiving for those in our local towns and cities who are willing to witness to the gospel in an age of doubt and suspicion, revealing a depth of faith and commitment to inspire our own; Lord in your mercy,

Help us choose life.

Confident in God's eternal generosity, we continue to lift our hearts in prayer.

In our parish cycle of prayer, we pray for those whom we serve at Highlander Laundromat this week and those who serve them through Laundry Love. May this

ministry of being present and offering laundry supplies and quarters be a blessing of love and compassion to our neighbors.

In our diocesan cycle of prayer, we pray for the people and ministry of St. John's Episcopal Church in Tower Grove/St. Louis and for Nancy, their Priest; and Bethann, their Deacon.

In our companion Diocese of Puerto Rico, we pray for The Order of Preachers, Dominicans.

We pray for those on our prayer list: **Karen, Joey, John, Maureen, Kathy, Kensie, Karen, Lorna, Peggy, Laura, Barb, Bill, Papa, Lisa, Virginia, Kathleen, Sarah, Lisa, Brad, Patrick Elizabeth, William, Steve, Jerry, Toni, Lisa, Megan & John, Dillon, Jeanette, Matthew, Teresa, Regina, Penny, Bob, Carolyn, Ruth, Janet, and Rosemary.**

We give thanks for birthdays: Jefferey Spivey.

Altar flowers for this morning were given by the family of Alice Foster.

Silence

The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.

Adapted from Intercessions Year C: Keyed to the Themes of the Revised Common Lectionary © 2012 by Geralyn Wolf.

CONFESSION OF SIN AND ABSOLUTION

EOW, pg. 56

The Celebrant says

Let us confess our sins to God.

Silence may be kept.

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.**

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

Celebrant: The God of heaven has made a home on earth.

People: **Christ dwells among us and is one with us.**

Celebrant: The peace of Christ be always with you.

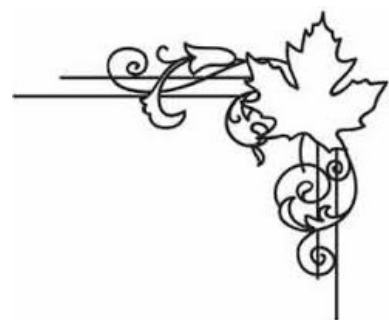
People: **And also with you.**

Celebrant: Please share a sign of Christ's peace with your neighbor.

BRIEF ANNOUNCEMENTS



THE HOLY COMMUNION



THE OFFERTORY

The Celebrant says an offertory sentence.

An offering plate will not be passed at this service. You are invited to leave your gift in the offering plate in the Narthex on the Welcome Table as you depart today's service. We are grateful for your generous and ongoing support of the ministries of Transfiguration Church.

10:00 am **THE OFFERTORY HYMN**

There is a Balm in Gilead

Hymnal, #676

8:00 am

Celebrant All things come of thee, O Lord

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

10:00 am **The Doxology**

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow

(Old Hundredth)

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.

Please rise in body or in spirit. 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.**

God of all power, Ruler of the Universe, you are worthy of glory and praise.

Glory to you forever and ever.

At your command all things came to be: the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses, and this fragile earth, our island home.

By your will they were created and have their being.

From the primal elements you brought forth the human race, and gave us hearts and minds to love and serve you. You made us the stewards of creation. But we turned against you, and betrayed your trust; and we turned against one another.

Have mercy, Lord, for we are sinners in your sight.

Again and again, you called us to return. Through prophets and sages you revealed your righteous Law. And in the fullness of time you sent your only Son, born of a woman, to fulfill your Law, to open for us the way of freedom and peace.

By his blood, he reconciled us.

By his wounds, we are healed.

And therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all those in every generation who have looked to you in hope, to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn:

**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

And so, Father, we who have been redeemed by him, and made a new people by water and the Spirit, now bring before you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ our Lord.

On the night he was betrayed he took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, and gave it to his friends, 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, gave thanks, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Remembering now his work of redemption, and offering to you this sacrifice of thanksgiving,

***We celebrate his death and resurrection,
as we await the day of his coming.***

Lord God of our Fathers and Mothers; God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ: Open our eyes to see your hand at work in the world about us. Deliver us from the presumption of coming to this Table for solace only, and not for strength; for pardon only, and not for renewal. Let the grace of this Holy Communion make us one body, one spirit in Christ, that we may worthily serve the world in his name.

Risen Lord, be known to us in the breaking of the Bread.

Accept these prayers and praises, Father, through Jesus Christ our great High Priest, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, your Church gives honor, glory, and worship, from generation to generation. **AMEN.**

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to pray,

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, or a blessing if preferred.

Please note that you may drink directly from the chalice – we do not allow self-intinction. If you do not wish to drink from the chalice you may simply return to your seat after receiving the bread.

Please wait for the Usher to release the section where you are seated.

10:00 am Prayer of Spiritual Communion *(while those present are coming forward to receive the bread, a leader addresses those who are watching the livestream feed)*

Leader: The Resurrected Christ has gathered us to feast at the Table of Remembrance, yet circumstances make it difficult for some to gather physically around Christ's altar and receive Christ's eucharistic body. Wherever you are, you are offered God's grace by spiritually receiving Christ in your heart.

Please pray with me *(prayed by those who are watching the livestream feed)*

In union, O Lord,
with the faithful of your Church where the Holy Eucharist is now being
celebrated,
I desire to offer you praise and thanksgiving.
I present to you my soul and body
with the earnest wish that I may always be united to you.
And since I cannot now receive you sacramentally,
I beseech you to come spiritually into my heart.
I unite myself with you and embrace you with all the love of my soul.
Let nothing ever separate you from me.
May I live in you, and may you live in me,
both in this life and in the life to come. Amen.

POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER

EW, pg. 69

Please rise in body or in spirit. The Celebrant says

Let us pray.

Celebrant and People

**God of abundance,
you have fed us
with the bread of life and cup of salvation;
you have united us
with Christ and one another;
and you have made us one
with all your people in heaven and on earth.
Now send us forth
in the power of your Spirit,
that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world
and continue for ever**

in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.

The Celebrant offers the Blessing

THE BLESSING

May God who established the dance of creation,
Who marveled at the lilies of the field,
Who transforms chaos to order,
lead us to transform our lives and the Church
to listen to the voice of all creatures
that reflect God's glory in creation.

And the blessing of God who created you, Jesus Christ who redeemed you, and the Holy Spirit who sanctifies you, be upon you, and upon those for whom you love and pray, now and always. **Amen.**

10:00 am **SENDING HYMN**

Lord of all hopefulness

Hymnal, #482

THE DISMISSAL

Celebrant Let us go forth into all creation, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit. Aleluia, Aleluia.

People ***Thanks be to God. Aleluia, Aleluia.***

Liturgical texts are from *The Book of Common Prayer* (public domain)
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The Invitation to and Prayer of Spiritual Communion takes its central meaning from the Order of Service for the Renewal of Baptism and Ordination Vows, and the Blessing of the Oils Service from March 30, 2021 by the dioceses of Kansas, Western Kansas, Missouri, West Missouri, the Central States Synod of the ELCA and Grace and Holy Trinity Cathedral,
and is adapted by Rev. Dr. Marshall Crossnoe.

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