

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

Holy Eucharist  
for the Second Sunday of Advent  
December 7, 2025  
10:00 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.

Dear Friends,

Advent is a time of watching and waiting for the birth of Jesus Christ into the world. We are reminded of his first coming in Bethlehem, and of his final coming when he shall judge the world with righteousness and mercy. We also remember that Jesus dwells with us in all our todays and tomorrows. Come, Lord Jesus!

Faithfully yours,

The Rev. Lu-Anne Conner

## THE HOLY EUCHARIST, RITE II

GATHERING HYMN

On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry

Hymnal, #76

### THE WORD OF GOD

#### THE PREPARATION

*Please rise in body or in spirit. The Celebrant says*

*Celebrant* Light and peace in Jesus Christ our Lord.

*People* **Thanks be to God!**

*Celebrant* Dear friends in Christ, we come together in the midst of a busy season to take a breath: to slow down as we remember Jesus' coming to dwell among us, to recognize Jesus' presence with and among us now, and to anticipate Jesus' coming again in glory. We are invited for a time to breathe in together the life that God gives us, and to listen to the beating of God's heart. Let us take a few moments of silence to rest in God's presence.

*A prolonged silence is kept.*

*Celebrant* May Christ fill our parish, our homes, and our hearts with his peace this Advent season as we journey deeper into the mystery of God's amazing love for the world. **Amen.**

#### THE GREETING

*Celebrant* Blessed be the Holy One whose coming we await,

*People* **And blessed be the One who comes to set all people free. Amen.**

*Then may be added*

*Celebrant* In the tender compassion of our God

*People* **The dawn from on high shall break upon us,**

*Celebrant* To shine on those who dwell in the shadow of death,

*People* **To guide our feet into the way of peace.**

*The Celebrant 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.**

**HYMN OF PRAISE***Come thou long expected Jesus*

Hymnal, #66

1 Come, thou long - ex - pect - ed Je - sus, born to set thy peo - ple free;  
2 Is - rael's strength and con - so - la - tion, hope of all the earth thou art:  
3 Born thy peo - ple to de - liv - er, born a child, and yet a king,  
4 By thine own e - ter - nal Spi - rit rule in all our hearts a - lone;

from our fears and sins re - lease us, let us find our rest in thee.  
dear de - sire of ev - ery na - tion, joy of ev - ery long - ing heart.  
born to reign in us for ev - er, now thy gra - cious king - dom bring.  
by thine all - suf - fi - cient mer - it raise us to thy glo - rious throne.

Words: Charles Wesley (1707-1788). Music: *Stuttgart*, melody from *Psalmodia Sacra, oder Andächtige und Schöne Gesänge*, 1715; adapt. and harm. William Henry Havergal (1793-1870), alt.

**THE COLLECT OF THE DAY WITH THE LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH**

BCP, pg. 211

*As the Celebrant reads the Collect of the Day, the Advent Wreath Candles for the day are lighted*

**Celebrant** The Lord be with you.

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

**Celebrant** Let us pray.

Merciful God, who sent your messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation: Give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins, that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our Redeemer; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

**Celebrant** O Christ, our dearest Savior, kindle our lamps, that they may evermore shine in your temple; that your unquenchable light will enlighten our darkness and lessen the darkness of the world.

*People:       **Merciful God, give us grace to heed the warnings of the prophets and forsake our sins.***

## **The Readings**

### **A READING FROM THE BOOK OF 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 OF PAUL 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 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 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

*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 ADVENT

**Leader** O God whose Messiah's coming we await, keep us awake and alert to watch for the signs of your coming, responding to each petition by saying "Shine in our hearts."



Keep us awake and alert to our humble calling to be the church of Christ in the world. Empower all bishops, priests and deacons to proclaim justice and truth as they care for your holy people, especially Sean our Presiding Bishop, Deon our bishop, and Lu-Anne our rector.

Christ our hope;

*People* ***Shine in our hearts.***

*Leader* Keep us awake and alert to the needs and wants of the nations of the world. Enlighten the leaders of the nations to attend to the needs of the lowest and the least, the last and the left-out, that justice and peace may be our strength and equity our common good.

Christ our hope;

*People* ***Shine in our hearts.***

*Leader* Keep us awake and alert to the needs of the sick and suffering. Embolden our love that we may care with compassion for those in need. Give them to know of the healing care of Jesus. We pray especially for those on our parish prayer list: ***Karen, Joey, John, Maureen, Kathy, Kensie, Karen, Peggy, Laura, Barb, Bill, Papa, Lisa, Virginia, Kathleen, Lisa, Brad, Patrick Elizabeth, William, Steve, Jerry, Toni, Lisa, Megan & John, Dillon, Regina, Penny, Bob, Carolyn, Ruth, Janet, Rosemary, Christina, Betty, Shirley, Kathy, Roger, John, Sandra, Margene, Kathy, Steohen, and Mary.***

Are there others?

*Silence is kept for a time.*

Christ our hope;

*People* ***Shine in our hearts.***

*Leader* Keep us awake and alert to the needs of friends and strangers. Energize this community of faith to reach out with compassion to transform our neighborhoods and communities to reflect the beloved community of peace. Christ our hope;

*People* ***Shine in our hearts.***

*Leader* Keep us awake and alert to those who mourn, those who grieve and those who are despondent or depressed. Enable us to be Christ's hands of healing and wholeness that we may be agents of comfort and hope.

Christ our hope;

*People* ***Shine in our hearts.***

*Leader* Keep us awake and alert to the shortness of our time. Enfold those who have ended their course on earth and have joined the martyrs and saints in the region of light. May we, in our own time, come to the joys of your eternal reign.

Christ our hope;

*People* ***Shine in our hearts.***

*Leader* In our parish cycle of prayer, we pray for those who receive supplies through LINC. Bless us as we shop for toothpaste and toothbrushes this month and bless those who collect and transport these items. May our offerings of toothpaste and toothbrushes this month be a blessing of love and compassion to our neighbors.

We pray for those whom we serve at King Laundry 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.

And we pray for those who serve the students of Wright City Schools through Care to Learn and the students who benefit from this program. May the compassion offered and experienced overflow into the classrooms for the benefit of all.

In the diocesan cycle of prayer we pray for the people and ministry of Trinity Episcopal Church in De Soto and Carol, their Lay Associate Minister.

In our companion Diocese of Puerto Rico, we pray for St. Gabriel the Archangel in Humacao.

We give thanks for birthdays: Kathy Furgason, John Purcell, and Pam Fadler.

*The Celebrant offers a concluding prayer.*

*Celebrant* Shine forth O God of Hosts, encourage, embolden and energize your people to keep awake and alert to the coming of Jesus the Christ, that he, when he comes again in glory, may find us already serving those in need; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, One God for ever and ever. ***Amen.***

## **THE CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION**

*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 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*

## **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.*

**OFFERTORY HYMN** *There's a voice in the wilderness crying* Hymnal, #75

**THE DOXOLOGY** *Praise God from whom all blessings flow* 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

*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.***

*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.

Because you sent your beloved Son to redeem us from sin and death, and to make us heirs in him of everlasting life; that when he shall come again in power and great triumph to judge the world, we may without shame or fear rejoice to behold his appearing.

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 the one who comes in the name of the Lord.***

***Hosanna in the highest.***

*The Celebrant continues*

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

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 all 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 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.*

**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** *(said by all)*

BCP, pg. 366

*Please rise in body or in spirit. 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 forever. Amen.***

## THE ADVENT BLESSING

*Celebrant* May the Sun of Righteousness shine upon you and scatter the darkness from before your path; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

### SENDING HYMN

*Hark! The glad sound!*

Hymnal, #72

## ADVENT DISMISSAL

*Celebrant* As we await our coming Savior, go in peace to shine as Christ's presence in the world.

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

*Anointing and Healing Prayer after the service this Sunday.  
All loose plate offering on the first Sunday of the month goes to  
the Rector's Discretionary Fund to help those in need*

## Ministers of Worship

<b>Celebrant &amp; Preacher</b>	The Rev. Lu-Anne Conner
<b>Lay Minister of the Day</b>	Mike Ten Clay
<b>Usher</b>	Jack van Es
<b>Lector</b>	Sandy Rafferty
<b>Acolyte</b>	Rich Moody
<b>Chalice Bearer</b>	Rich Moody
<b>Musician</b>	Jackie Goen
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Rosemary Bagin Jan Trendley
<b>Coffee Hour</b>	Nancy Dunlap Kate McCormick
<b>Counters</b>	Lisa Bowman Jan Munro
<b>Videographer</b>	Mari Moody

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Weeks 1-3, The prayer for Love and Light is an adaptation of Paul C. Stratman's translation of a 6th century Collect from his *Prayers of the Ancient Celtic Church*. Used with permission.

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

Hymns/songs are printed in the bulletin under RiteSong.