



Welcome to Christ Episcopal Church  
in Cape Girardeau, Missouri

## The Feast of the Transfiguration

August 6th 2023

# The Gathering of God's People

Processional.....#383 Fairest Lord Jesus

## Greetings

*BCP 355*

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

*People:* **And blessed be his kingdom, now and forever. Amen.**

Gloria.....Hendrick's Gloria

## Collect of the Day

*Presider:* The Lord be with you.

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

*Presider:* Let us pray.

O God, who on the holy mount revealed to chosen witnesses your well-beloved Son, wonderfully transfigured, in raiment white and glistening: Mercifully grant that we, being delivered from the disquietude of this world, may by faith behold the King in his beauty; who with you, O Father, and you, O Holy Spirit, lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

## First Reading

Exodus 34:29-35

Moses came down from Mount Sinai. As he came down from the mountain with the two tablets of the covenant in his hand, Moses did not know that the skin of his face shone because he had been talking with God. When Aaron and all the Israelites saw Moses, the skin of his face was shining, and they were afraid to come near him. But Moses called to them; and Aaron and all the leaders of the congregation returned to him, and Moses spoke with them. Afterward all the Israelites came near, and he gave them in commandment all that the Lord had spoken with him on Mount Sinai. When Moses had finished speaking with them, he put a veil on his face; but whenever Moses went in before the Lord to speak with him, he would take the veil off, until he came out; and when he came out, and told the Israelites what he had been commanded, the Israelites would see the face of Moses, that the skin of his face was shining; and Moses would put the veil on his face again, until he went in to speak with him.

*Reader:* The Word of the Lord.

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

## The Psalm

Psalm 99

*Dominus regnavit*

1 [The Lord is King;

let the people tremble; \*

he is enthroned upon the cherubim;

let the earth shake.

- 2 The Lord is great in Zion; \*  
he is high above all peoples.
- 3 Let them confess his Name, which is great and awesome; \*  
he is the Holy One.
- 4 "O mighty King, lover of justice,  
you have established equity; \*  
you have executed justice and righteousness in  
Jacob."]
- 5 Proclaim the greatness of the Lord our God  
and fall down before his footstool; \*  
he is the Holy One.
- 6 Moses and Aaron among his priests,  
and Samuel among those who call upon his Name, \*  
they called upon the Lord, and he answered them.
- 7 He spoke to them out of the pillar of cloud; \*  
they kept his testimonies and the decree that he gave  
them.
- 8 O Lord our God, you answered them indeed; \*  
you were a God who forgave them,  
yet punished them for their evil deeds.
- 9 Proclaim the greatness of the Lord our God  
and worship him upon his holy hill; \*  
for the Lord our God is the Holy One.

### **Second Reading**

2 Peter 1:13-21

I think it right, as long as I am in this body, to refresh your memory, since I know that my death will come soon, as indeed our Lord Jesus Christ has made clear to me. And I will make every effort so that after my departure you may be able at any time to recall these things. For we did not follow cleverly devised myths when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we had been eyewitnesses of his majesty. For he received honor and glory from God the Father when that voice was conveyed to him by the Majestic Glory, saying, "This is my Son, my Beloved, with whom I am well pleased." We ourselves heard this voice come from heaven, while we were with him on the holy mountain.

So we have the prophetic message more fully confirmed. You will do well to be attentive to this as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts. First of all you must understand this, that no prophecy of scripture is a matter of one's own interpretation, because no prophecy ever came by human

will, but men and women moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God.

*Reader:* The Word of the Lord.

*People:* Thanks be to God.

*The People stand for the hymn.*

**The Sequence Hymn**.....#714 Shalom my friends

**The Gospel** Luke 9:28-36



*Presider:* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

*People:* Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus took with him Peter and John and James, and went up on the mountain to pray. And while he was praying, the appearance of his face changed, and his clothes became dazzling white. Suddenly they saw two men, Moses and Elijah, talking to him. They appeared in glory and were speaking of his departure, which he was about to accomplish at Jerusalem. Now Peter and his companions were weighed down with sleep; but since they had stayed awake, they saw his glory and the two men who stood with him. Just as they were leaving him, Peter said to Jesus, "Master, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah" –not knowing what he said. While he was saying this, a cloud came and overshadowed them; and they were terrified as they entered the cloud. Then from the cloud came a voice that said, "This is my Son, my Chosen; listen to him!" When the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone. And they kept silent and in those days told no one any of the things they had seen.

*Reader:* The Gospel of the Lord.

*People:* Praise to you, Lord Christ.

**Sermon**

Rev. Edie Bird

**Nicene Creed**

BCP 358

*A/:* 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,  
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.

### Prayers of the People

*BCP 387*

*Reader:* Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church;  
*People:* **That we all may be one.**  
*Reader:* Grant that every member of the Church may truly and  
 humbly serve you;  
*People:* **That your Name be glorified by all people.**  
*Reader:* We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons;  
*People:* **That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and  
 Sacraments.**  
*Reader:* We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the  
 nations of the world;  
*People:* **That there may be justice and peace on the earth.**  
*Reader:* Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;  
*People:* **That our works may mind favor in your sight.**  
*Reader:* Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief  
 or trouble;  
*People:* **That they may be delivered from their distress.**  
*Reader:* We praise you for your saints who have entered into  
 joy;  
*People:* **May we also come to share in your heavenly**

kingdom.

*Reader:* Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

**The Confession**

*BCP 360*

*All kneel. The Presider says*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

***Presider 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 Presider stands and 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**

*Presider:* The peace of the Lord be always with you.

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

*We greet each other in the name of the risen Christ. Stay standing for hymn.*

**Offertory Hymn**.....#671 Amazing Grace

**The Great Thanksgiving**

*BCP p. 369*

*People remain standing*

*Presider:* The Lord be with you.

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

*Presider:* Lift up your hearts.

***People:* We lift them to the Lord.**

*Presider:* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

***People:* It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

*Then, facing the Holy Table, the Presider proceeds*

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

**Glory to you for ever 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 blessed us with memory, reason, and skill. You made us the rulers 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:

**Sanctus**.....Hendrick's Insert

*The people stand or kneel. The Presider 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.

*At the following words concerning the bread, the Presider 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 wine to be consecrated.*

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 you and for many 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,

***Presider and People***

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

*The Presider continues*

Lord God of our Fathers; God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob; 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 say,

**The Lord's Prayer**

*BCP p. 364*

**All:**

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 this is the kingdom,  
and the power, and the glory,  
for ever and ever. Amen.

**Breaking of the Bread**

*The Presider breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept. Then may be sung or said:*

*Presider:* [Alleluia.] Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

*People:* **Therefore let us keep the feast. [Alleluia.]**

**Fraction**.....Hendricks Agnus Dei

*Facing the people, the Presider says the following Invitation*

*Presider:* The Gifts of God for the People of God.

**Communion Hymn**.....LEVAS #151 One bread, one body (p.10)

**Post Communion Prayer**

*After Communion, the Presider says*



*Presider:* Let us pray.  
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 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.**

**Announcements**  
*Stand for the hymn and dismissal.*  
**Recessional Hymn**.....#711 Seek ye First  
**Dismissal**

**This Service's Servers**

<i>Presider</i>	Rev. Edie Bird
<i>Eucharistic Minister</i>	Gloria Miller
<i>Preacher</i>	Rev. Edie Bird
<i>Reader</i>	Nancy Kennemore
<i>Greeter</i>	Nona Nan Chapman
<i>Altar Guild</i>	Deb Brewer
<i>St. Isidore's Guild</i>	Bruce Mims
<i>Vestry Counter</i>	Deb Brewer

One bread, one bod - y, one Lord of all, one cup of blessing which we bless. And we, though man - y, through - out the earth, we are one bod - y in this one Lord.

1. Gen - tile or Jew, ser - vant or  
2. Man - y the gifts, man - y the  
3. Grain for the fields, scat - tered and

1. free, wom - an or man,  
2. works, one in the Lord  
3. grown, gath - ered to one

D.S.  
1. no more. One  
2. of all. One  
3. for all. One

CODA

Lord.



# Notes on the Service

## The Feast of The Transfiguration

Exo 34:29-35 • Ps 99 • II Pet 1:13-31 • Lk 9:28-36

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The Transfiguration is the Feast which commemorates Christ's transformation so that his face and clothing shined, as seen by the inner circle of apostles, on a mountain top, said to be Mt Tabor. The apostles have this vision eight days after Peter had first identified Jesus as the Messiah. Now Peter's confession is being ratified by the figures and the Voice on the mountain.

Assigning a specific date to recall the Transfiguration began in Eastern Orthodox calendars before A.D. 1000. In 1457, it was added to Western calendars in by Pope Callistus III in commemoration of the victory, on August 6, 1456, of Christian armies led by Giovanni Capistrano, O.F.M., ("San Juan Capistrano") over Turks pushing onto Belgrade after their capture of Constantinople in 1453. The feast did not appear in the first three English Prayer Books. It entered the Episcopal calendar only in 1892 thanks to the efforts of William Reed Huntington, who wrote our collect. A hymn for this Holy Day, #137, was translated by J. M. Neale, feast day, August 7.

Exodus says Moses' face was shining after contact with God's glory on Mt Sinai. Moses' luminosity must have been a reflection of the Divine fire. This passage was notoriously mistranslated by the Latin Vulgate as Moses' having "sprouted horns," causing Michelangelo to sculpt his statue of Moses with horns on Moses' head.

A psalm about God's kingship, Psalm 99 also honors Moses and the Law. Notice the refrain in vv 3, 5, 9, "He is the Holy One." As the Holy One met Moses on Mt Sinai, so the Holy One meets worshipers of the psalmist's time on Mt Zion, in Jerusalem, the site where Jesus, too, will meet his best glory.

II Peter refers to Peter's having witnessed Christ's Transfiguration as evidence of his teaching's authenticity in contrast with the myths found in other 2nd century writings. "This is my Son, with whom I am well pleased," is Matthew's wording of the Voice as cited by II Peter.

Luke is the only author who times the Transfiguration at night, "Peter and those with him were heavy with sleep...." Moses and Elijah with Jesus signify agreement of Torah and prophets, respectively, with Christ. Like glowing light, clouds are another sign of God's presence. Any plan to enshrine the three figures would slow Jesus' departure. His departure is a subject which, having discussed it with his two great predecessors, Jesus begins now to emphasize increasingly to his twelve apostles.

**Rev. Stephen Weissman**  
Asheville, North Carolina