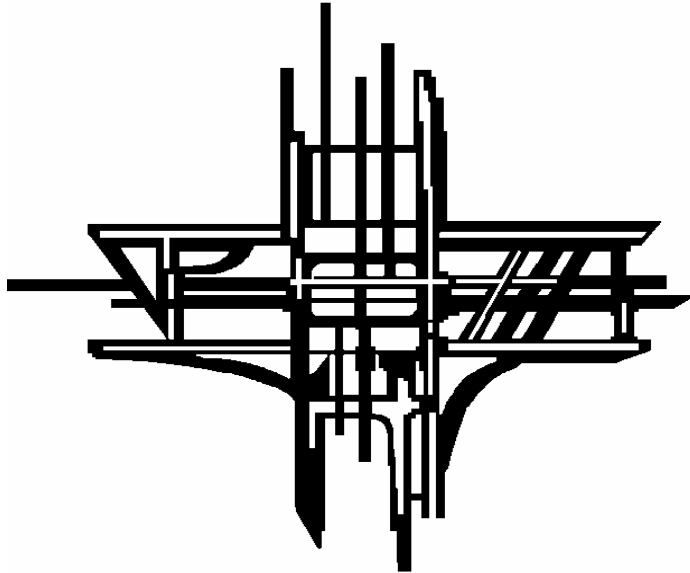


Church of the Transfiguration

**A community praising God,
Growing in Christ, and
Joyfully serving others.**



**The Nineteenth Sunday after
Pentecost, Year A
With the Blessing of the
Animals
October 4, 2026**

Whoever you are and wherever you find yourself on the journey of faith, you are welcome at Church of the Transfiguration, just as you are.

What is Transfiguration's mission?

Transfiguration strives to provide a refuge and a haven where people feel seen as children of God regardless of race, ethnicity, class, sexuality, sex, or gender, and can grow in the love of God and neighbor.

What kind of Church is this?

Transfiguration is part of the Episcopal Church, a member of the Anglican Communion, a loose federation of Anglican denominations around the world. One of the defining characteristics of Anglicanism is how we pray. Our life of worship and prayer is rooted in the *Book of Common Prayer*.

What is there for children at Transfiguration?

For young children, we offer a wonderful nursery with paid nursery attendants year-round.

For our slightly older kids, we have church school doing the school year. Children go upstairs after having communion and have a fifteen-to-twenty-minute lesson before rejoining the congregation in coffee hour.

Am I *really* welcome here?

Sadly, churches do not always feel like safe spaces. It can be intimidating walking into a church for the first time, but when the church is at its best, it can be a place of comfort, joy, love, and peace. We hope Transfiguration can be a space where people experience the latter. If you want to learn more about the parish, feel free to reach out to Rev. Hunter. He would be happy to grab coffee or a meal and answer your questions. You can also fill out a visitor card in the pews and drop it in the offertory plate so Rev. Hunter can be in touch with you.

Processional

“All Creatures of Our God and King”

H400

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

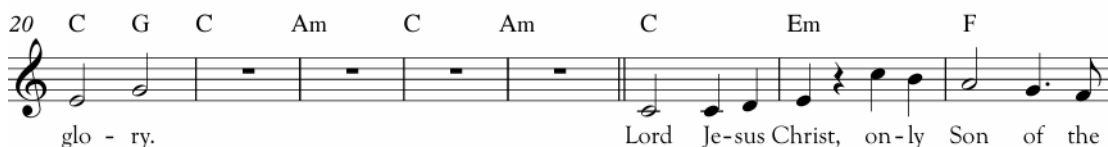
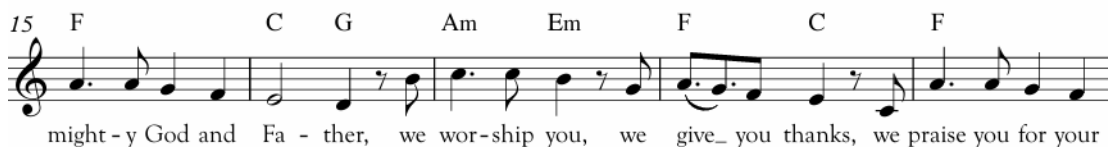
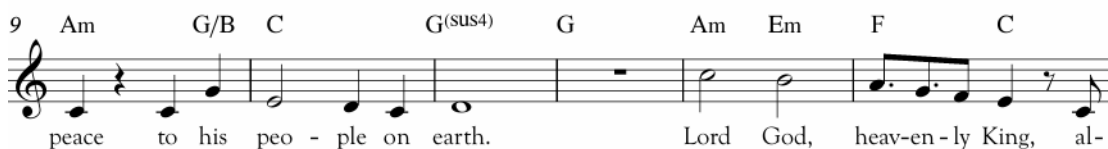
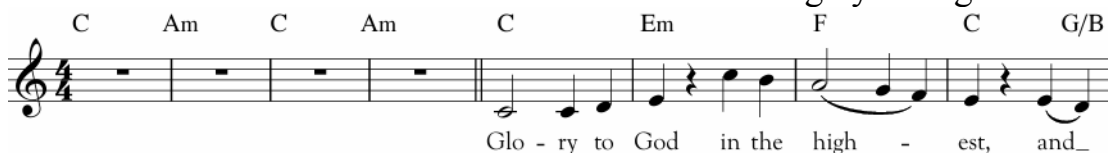
People **And blessed be God’s kingdom, now and forever. Amen.**

Celebrant

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. **Amen.**

The Gloria

Setting by Liturgical Folk



34 F C F C G Am Em
 sin of the world: have mer - cy on us; you are seat-ed at the right hand

38 F C F G C Am C Am C
 of the Fa-ther: re- ceive our prayer. For you a -

46 Em F C G/B Am G/B C G/B Am
 lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord, you a - lone are the

52 G G(sus4) G C F C G F C G/B
 Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spi - rit, in the

58 Am Em F G C Am C Am C
 glo-ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

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

Celebrant Let us pray.

Celebrant

Almighty and everlasting God, you are always more ready to hear than we to pray, and to give more than we either desire or deserve: Pour upon us the abundance of your mercy, forgiving us those things of which our conscience is afraid, and giving us those good things for which we are not worthy to ask, except through the merits and mediation of Jesus Christ our Savior; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Scripture Readings

First Reading

Isaiah 5:1-7

A reading from the Prophet Isaiah:

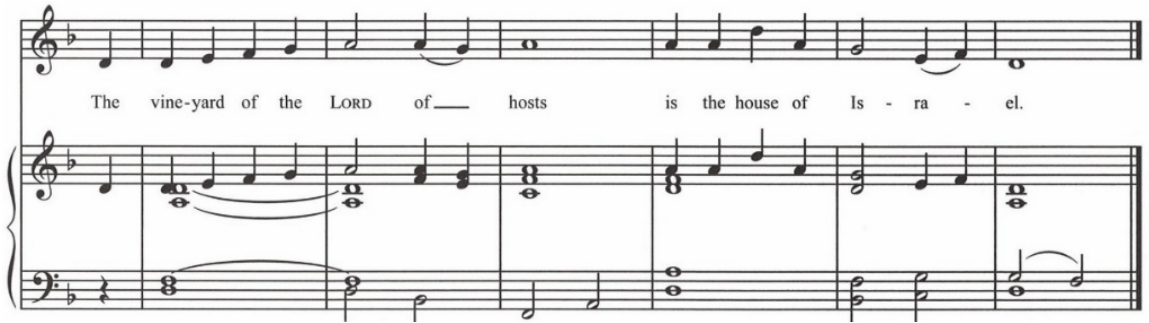
Let me sing for my beloved
my love-song concerning his vineyard:
My beloved had a vineyard
on a very fertile hill.
He dug it and cleared it of stones,
and planted it with choice vines;
he built a watchtower in the midst of it,
and hewed out a wine vat in it;
he expected it to yield grapes,
but it yielded wild grapes.
And now, inhabitants of Jerusalem
and people of Judah,
judge between me
and my vineyard.
What more was there to do for my vineyard
that I have not done in it?
When I expected it to yield grapes,
why did it yield wild grapes?
And now I will tell you
what I will do to my vineyard.
I will remove its hedge,
and it shall be devoured;
I will break down its wall,
and it shall be trampled down.
I will make it a waste;
it shall not be pruned or hoed,
and it shall be overgrown with briars and thorns;

I will also command the clouds
that they rain no rain upon it.
For the vineyard of the Lord of hosts
is the house of Israel,
and the people of Judah
are his pleasant planting;
he expected justice,
but saw bloodshed;
righteousness,
but heard a cry!

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

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

Psalm 80:7-14



- 7 Restore us, O God of hosts; *
show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.
- 8 You have brought a vine out of Egypt; *
you cast out the nations and planted it. [ANT.]
- A 9 You prepared the ground for it; *
it took root and filled the land.
- A 10 The mountains were covered by its shadow *
and the towering cedar trees by its boughs.
- B 11 You stretched out its tendrils to the Sea *
and its branches to the River. [ANT.]
- A 12 Why have you broken down its wall, *
so that all who pass by pluck off its grapes?
- A 13 The wild boar of the forest has ravaged it, *
and the beasts of the field have grazed upon it.
- B 14 Turn now, O God of hosts, look down from heaven;
behold and tend this vine; *
preserve what your right hand has planted. [ANT.]

Second Reading

Philippians 3:4b-14

A reading from Paul's letter to the Philippians:

If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless.

Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith. I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal; but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. Beloved, I do not consider that I have made it my own; but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

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

***People* Thanks be to God**

[*Verse 1*]

*If you should send your Angel to pass along your word,
Or should it be a quiet little bird,
Let it be, let it be in my heart
As it is in your will.*

[**Refrain**]

Gospel

Matthew 21:33-46

Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

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

Jesus said, “Listen to another parable. There was a landowner who planted a vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a wine press in it, and built a watchtower. Then he leased it to tenants and went to another country. When the harvest time had come, he sent his slaves to the tenants to collect his produce. But the tenants seized his slaves and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. Again he sent other slaves, more than the first; and they treated them in the same way. Finally he sent his son to them, saying, ‘They will respect my son.’ But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, ‘This is the heir; come, let us kill him and get his inheritance.’ So they seized him, threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him. Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?” They said to him, “He will put those wretches to a miserable death, and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the produce at the harvest time.”

Jesus said to them, “Have you never read in the scriptures:

‘The stone that the builders rejected
has become the cornerstone;
this was the Lord’s doing,
and it is amazing in our eyes’?

Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that produces the fruits of the kingdom. The one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces; and it will crush anyone on whom it falls.”

When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they realized that he was speaking about them. They wanted to arrest him, but they feared the crowds, because they regarded him as a prophet.

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Sermon

Rev. Hunter Farrow

The Nicene Creed

Celebrant and People

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, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. 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, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who 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.

Litany for All Creation

Celebrant

Call out the names of those animals for whom we care. Call out the names of those animals who are no longer with us.

Silence

Deacon Holy God, Creator of heaven and earth,
People **Have mercy upon us.**

Deacon Holy and Mighty, Redeemer of the world,
People **Have mercy upon us.**

Deacon Holy Immortal One, Sanctifier of the faithful,
People **Have mercy upon us.**

Deacon Grant that all your creatures may serve you with
thanksgiving;
People **Pour out your blessing on earth, O God.**

Deacon Grant favorable weather, temperate rain, and fruitful
seasons, providing food and drink for all your creatures;
People **Pour out your blessing on earth, O God.**

Deacon Open our eyes to the wonder of creation, that we may see
you in all your works;
People **Pour out your blessing on earth, O God.**

Deacon Stir in us the desire to care for your creation;
People **Pour out your blessing on earth, O God.**

Deacon Make us wise and faithful stewards of creation, caring for
the earth, the waters, the air, and all that live therein;
People **Pour out your blessing on earth, O God.**

Deacon Forgive us who waste and pollute your creation and
strengthen us to restore what we have disregarded;
People **Pour out your blessing on earth, O God.**

Deacon Look with compassion on those that are abused and mistreated, show us their dignity in your creation;
People **Pour out your blessing on earth, O God.**

Deacon Remember those creatures that have died yet remain dear to us, that they may rejoice in your new creation;
People **Pour out your blessing on earth, O God.**

Celebrant

Holy Immortal One: No sparrow falls without your knowing it; nothing dies but is remembered by you; nothing comes into being that you do not see. Give us courage and resolve to build up the common good, holding fast to the hope of a new creation in which all shall dwell eternally, through Jesus Christ, our Risen Savior. **Amen.**

The Peace

Celebrant The Peace of the Lord be always with you.
People **And also with you.**

Announcements and Blessings

The Blessing of the Animals

Celebrant

God's animals inhabit the skies, the land, and the sea; we share the earth with them, and like them rely on God's blessing to sustain and preserve us. We gather today in communion and friendship with Francis of Assisi who preached to animals and moved throughout the known world sharing God's unconditional love for all beings. Remembering Francis's love for all God's creatures, bring forward the animals entrusted to your care that we may bless them.

If you brought a pet to be blessed, you are invited to bring them to the front of the sanctuary at this time.

Celebrant

N., May God who created and preserves you bless, defend, heal, and keep you, this day and always. Amen.

After all the animals have been blessed, the Celebrant continues.

Celebrant Let us pray.

Celebrant

God of all creation: We give you thanks and praise. Open our eyes to see your hand at work in all creation. May your bountiful blessing be upon us all, God our Redeemer, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Offertory Sentence

Celebrant

Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God.

Offertory Anthem

“Prayer of St. Francis”

by Allen Pote

Receiving the Gifts

Celebrant All things come of thee, O Lord.

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

The Holy Communion

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**

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.

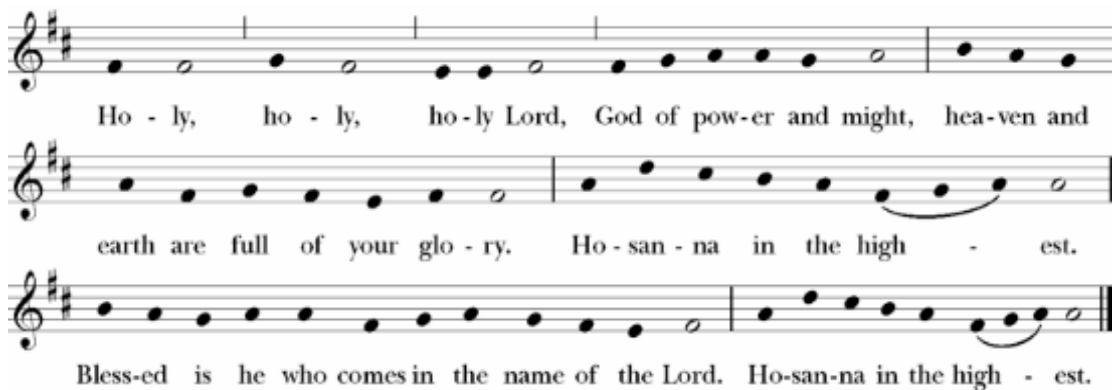
Again and again, you called us to return. Through prophets and sages you revealed your righteous Law. And in the fullness of time you sent your only Son, born of a woman, to fulfill your Law, to open for us the way of freedom and peace.

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

s124



Celebrant

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 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,

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

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.**

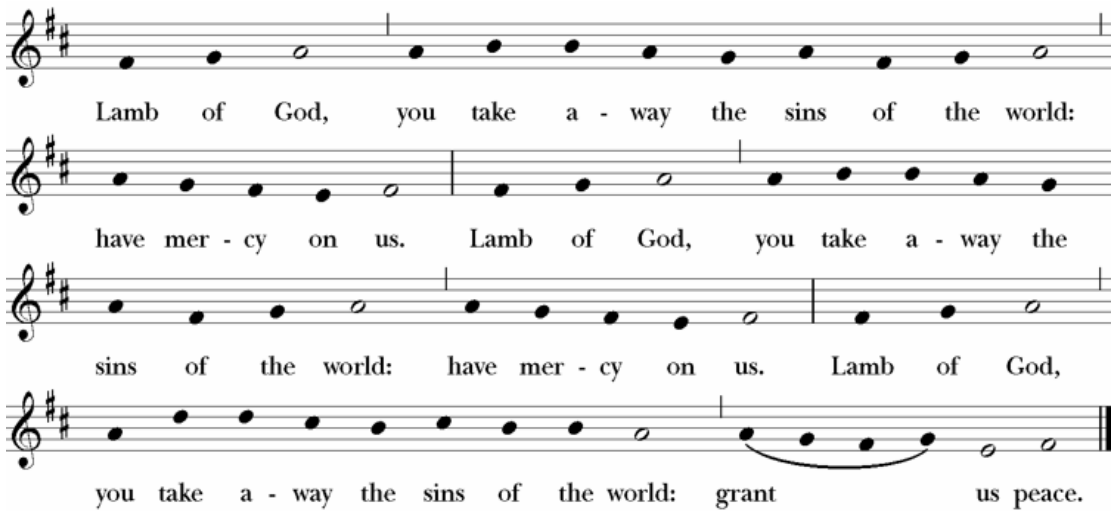
And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

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

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
People **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**



The Invitation to Communion

This is the table, not of the Church but of Jesus Christ It is made ready for those who love God and who want to love God more. So come, you who have much faith and you who have little. You who have been here often, and you who have not been for a long time or ever before. You who have tried to follow, and you who have failed. Come, not because the Church invites you. It is Christ who invites you to be known and fed here.

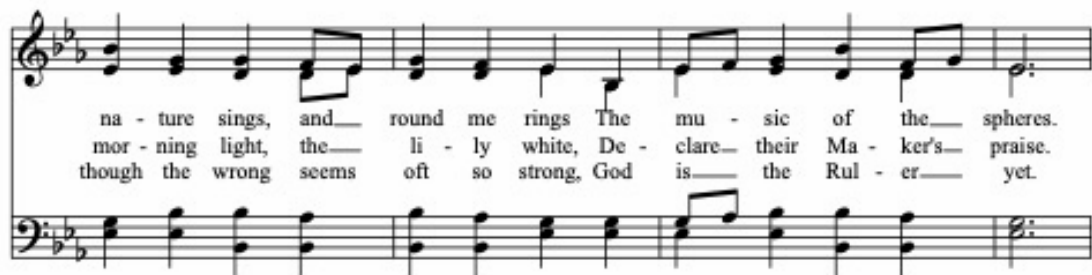
The Gifts of God for the people of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts with thanksgiving.

All baptized Christians, regardless of denomination, are welcome to take Communion in the Episcopal Church. If for any reason, you do not want to receive Communion, you are welcome to come forward to the altar rail with your arms crossed over your chest and receive a blessing. We have gluten free wafers available upon request.

Communion Hymn "This is My Father's World" TERRA BEATA



1 This is my Fa - ther's world, And to my list' - ning ears All
 2 This is my Fa - ther's world: The birds their ca - rols raise, The
 3 This is my Fa - ther's world: O let me ne'er for - get That



na - ture sings, and round me rings The mu - sic of the spheres.
 mor - ning light, the li - ly white, De - clare their Ma - ker's praise.
 though the wrong seems oft so strong, God is the Rul - er yet.



This is my Fa - ther's world; I rest me in the thought Of
 This is my Fa - ther's world: He shines in all that's fair; In the
 This is my Fa - ther's world: Why should my heart be sad? The



rocks and trees, of skies and seas—His hand the won - ders wrought.
 rust - ling grass I hear Him pass, He speaks to me ev - ery - where.
 Lord is King - let the hea - ven's ring! God reigns; let earth be glad! A - men.

Post Communion Prayer

Celebrant Let us pray.

Celebrant and People

Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Sending of the Eucharistic Visitors

(if applicable)

Minister

In the name of Christ, and of this congregation, we send you forth bearing the body and blood of Christ to those who cannot be with us today. Take God's holy Word, the prayers of this congregation, and this holy food for holy people.

People

We who are many are one Body because we share one bread, one cup.

Blessing

Celebrant

The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Recessional

“Praise to the Lord, the Almighty...”

H390

Dismissal

Deacon Let us go forth in the name of Christ.
People **Thanks be to God.**

SPECIAL INTENTIONS

THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE REMAIN ON OUR PERMANENT PRAYER LIST AS THEIR NEED FOR PRAYER IS LONG-TERM RATHER THAN ACUTE: Don, Roberta, Marilyn, Jim, Mary, Emily, Chelsea, Bob, Mark, Michael, John, Bob, Billy, Laura, Cindy, Pam, Katy, Lou, Nick, Brendan, Bob, Debra, Janet, Jacelyn, Sharon, Gabe, Chuck, Nancy, Mike, Tom, Betty, Carol, David, James, Kathy, Bill, John, Rosemary, Roberta, Earl, Patricia.

This week at Transfiguration:

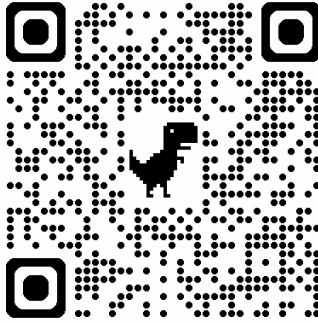
<i>Today</i>	<i>Holy Eucharist with Blessing of the Animals</i>	<i>Church/FB</i>	<i>10am</i>
	<i>Coffee Hour</i>	<i>Leach Hall</i>	<i>11:15am</i>
	<i>Outdoor Pet Blessings</i>	<i>Front Parking Lot</i>	<i>1-2:30pm</i>
<i>10/5</i>	<i>Bible Study</i>	<i>Zoom</i>	<i>7:00pm</i>
<i>10/9</i>	<i>Friday Night Fire</i>	<i>Church</i>	<i>6:30pm</i>

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Outdoor Pet Blessings** – For those whose pets who cannot handle being in service, there will be an additional opportunity for pet blessings in the front parking lot between 1PM and 2:30PM today. Come on by, and get your animals blessed.
- **Zoom Bible Study** – Our next Bible study session is tomorrow, Monday, October 5th, at 7PM on Zoom. We will continue our discussion of Ephesians, picking up with the second half of the first chapter. Anyone can jump in at any time. It is always great discussion.
- **Friday Night Fire** – Weather permitting, our final bonfire night of the year, will be this coming Friday, October 9th. We're starting to get some cooler weather, especially in the evenings, and it is a great time for a bonfire. As always, Hunter and Elizabeth will provide food, but folks are encouraged to bring a side or dessert to share. It is very casual. If you have lawn chairs, bring them. It starts around 6:30PM, but folks can show any time after that. BYOB.
- **Ministry Fair** – Mark your calendars. During coffee hour on Sunday, October 18th, we will have a ministry fair. The heads of all our different committees, guilds, boards, and teams will each be set up at a table with some info to share about their area of ministry. I encourage folks to stick around for this coffee hour and contemplate new areas to plug in at the parish. Maybe, you are newer and have not fully plugged in somewhere yet, or maybe, you've been plugged in to one area for a long time but are ready for a change. This is a great time to do some discernment about where God is calling you to be active in the church. This will also be part of our stewardship campaign, which starts next Sunday. Even as we begin to talk about financial stewardship, we want to remember that stewardship of our time and talents is equally important.

- **Halloween on the Green** – The parish is participating once again in the village's Halloween on the Green event. It is Friday, October 23rd, from 4PM-6PM. We need volunteers to help with the event, especially folks who are willing to dress up as characters for our Wizard of Oz theme. We also could use candy donations. If you are willing to volunteer or donate candy, please reach out to Hunter.
- **Transfiguration Halloween Party** – This is coming soon! Hope you can be there for this spooktacular event on Sunday, October 25th, right after the service. Costumes are encouraged. There will be games and prizes for the kids plus lots of fun and festive Halloween snacks and treats. All are welcome to bring something Halloween-y for our banquet table.

Online Giving:



Rector: Rev. Hunter Farrow, rector@transfigpalos.org

Deacon: Rev. Jason Elliott, jasonagelliott@gmail.com

Parish Administrator: Linda Hibberd, admin@transfigpalos.org

Administrator's Office Hours

Monday – Thursday 8:30AM to 2:30PM

Priest's Office Hours

Monday – Thursday 10Am to 3:00PM

CHURCH OF THE TRANSFIGURATION

12219 S. 86th Ave. PALOS PARK, IL

(708) 448-1200

TRANSFIGPALOS.ORG