

# CHURCH OF THE TRANSFIGURATION

# FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST SEPTEMBER 1, 2024

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



Welcome. We are so happy to have you with us!

If you are visiting us for the first time, please fill out a visitor's card and put it in the offering plate.

#### For God's rich Blessings in my life

**Processional** 

God, my King

H 414, vs.1-3

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

People And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

#### Celebrant and people

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.

#### Glory to God





#### The Collect

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Let us pray.

Lord of all power and might, the author and giver of all good things: Graft in our hearts the love of your Name; increase in us true religion; nourish us with all goodness; and bring forth in us the fruit of good works; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God for ever and ever. **Amen.** 

#### **First Reading**

A reading from the book of Deutronomy

Moses said: So now, Israel, give heed to the statutes and ordinances that I am teaching you to observe, so that you may live to enter and occupy the land that the Lord, the God of your ancestors, is giving you. You must neither add anything to what I command you nor take away anything from it, but keep the commandments of the Lord your God with which I am charging you.

You must observe them diligently, for this will show your wisdom and discernment to the peoples, who, when they hear all these statutes, will say, "Surely this great nation is a wise and discerning people!" For what other great nation has a god so near to it as the Lord our God is whenever we call to him? And what other great nation has statutes and ordinances as just as this entire law that I am setting before you today?

But take care and watch yourselves closely, so as neither to forget the things that your eyes have seen nor to let them slip from your mind all the days of your life; make them known to your children and your children's children.

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

Thanks be to God.

#### Psalm 15

1 Lord, who may dwell in your tabernacle? \* who may abide upon your holy hill?

2 Whoever leads a blameless life and does what is right, \* who speaks the truth from his heart.

3 There is no guile upon his tongue; he does no evil to his friend; \* he does not heap contempt upon his neighbor.

4 In his sight the wicked is rejected, \* but he honors those who fear the Lord.

5 He has sworn to do no wrong \* and does not take back his word.

6 He does not give his money in hope of gain, \* nor does he take a bribe against the innocent.

7 Whoever does these things \* shall never be overthrown.

The Epistle James 1:17-27

A reading from the book of James.

Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. In fulfillment of his own purpose he gave us birth by the word of truth, so that we would become a kind of first fruits of his creatures.

You must understand this, my beloved: let everyone be quick to listen, slow to speak, slow to anger; for your anger does not produce God's righteousness. Therefore rid yourselves of all sordidness and rank growth of wickedness, and welcome with meekness the implanted word that has the power to save your souls.

But be doers of the word, and not merely hearers who deceive themselves. For if any are hearers of the word and not doers, they are like those who look at themselves in a mirror; for they look at themselves and, on going away, immediately forget what they were like. But those who look into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and persevere, being not hearers who forget but doers who act-they will be blessed in their doing.

If any think they are religious, and do not bridle their tongues but deceive their hearts, their religion is worthless. Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this: to care for orphans and widows in their distress, and to keep oneself unstained by the world.

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

Thanks be to God.

#### **Sequence**

### In Christ Alone



© 1994 New Spring Publishing Inc. (ASCAP) (admin. by CapitolCMGPublishing.com) All rights reserved. Used by permission.

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark

#### Glory to you, Lord Christ.

When the Pharisees and some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered around him, they noticed that some of his disciples were eating with defiled hands, that is, without washing them. (For the Pharisees, and all the Jews, do not eat unless they thoroughly wash their hands, thus observing the tradition of the elders; and they do not eat anything from the market unless they wash it; and there are also many other traditions that they observe, the washing of cups, pots, and bronze kettles.) So the Pharisees and the scribes asked him, "Why do your disciples not live according to the tradition of the elders, but eat with defiled hands?" He said to them, "Isaiah prophesied rightly about you hypocrites, as it is written,

'This people honors me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me; in vain do they worship me, teaching human precepts as doctrines.' You abandon the commandment of God and hold to human tradition."

Then he called the crowd again and said to them, "Listen to me, all of you, and understand: there is nothing outside a person that by going in can defile, but the things that come out are what defile." For it is from within, from the human heart, that evil intentions come: fornication, theft, murder, adultery, avarice, wickedness, deceit, licentiousness, envy, slander, pride, folly. All these evil things come from within, and they defile a person."

Sermon

**Rev. Patrick Pierce** 

#### The Nicene Creed

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.

#### PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Open our eyes to see that all we are and all we have comes from you, O God. We ask you now to increase in us a spirit of generosity and holy imagination.

Open our lips with your praise as we gather as the body of Christ. Keep the leaders of our faith communities deeply connected to you that you may guide their course as we journey together. We pray for our lay ministers, bishops, our priests and deacons, and all who support the work you have given us to do.

#### Silence

Open the hearts of the leaders of the world. Give them courage to work for a better future for their people, which reflects justice, kindness, and connection with each other. Open the path to peace in the world. We pray for those in the military and first responders, especially Alex, Anthony, Frank, Edilio, Sam, Michael, Alexander, Jacob, Will and their families. Are there others?

#### Silence

Open the hands of your people to reach out in love to those around the world who are in fear for their lives, who face violent weather, whose daily lives are made difficult by their circumstances. May your love be made manifest through us.

#### Silence

Open a path to wholeness for those who live in fear of any kind, who have lost their way, whose spirits are restless, whose bodies are hurting. We pray for all those on our parish prayer list, especially Chelsea, Marilyn, Chuck, Pam, Bill, Ed, Steven, Michael, Rich, Patrick, Annette, Christopher, Lorna, Pura, Cathy, Pam, Joe, Laura, Michael, Jude, Lois, Jack, Wayne, Chris, Tom, Derek, Barb, Sherrill, Kathleen, Tom E., Dory and his family, Rachel, Dawn, MaryAnne, Mary F., Tom, Claire, Debbie, Luann, Bill M, Shirleen & Jim. Are there others?

#### Silence

Open your arms to embrace those who have recently died. Grant them entrance to your eternal kingdom, where there is no pain or grief.

#### **Silence**

We give thanks for those celebrating birthdays this week, especially Janet Wahlen, Bruce Dawson, Colleen Kelly and Betsy Blew-Ochoa and for those celebrating anniversaries, especially John III and Pam Glass. Are there others?

*Celebrant*: Holy and Wondrous God, by your never-failing providence you set in order all creation: Put away from us all hurtful things and give us those things which are profitable for us, through Jesus Christ our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen*.

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept.

Minister 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 Bishop, when present, or the Priest, 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*.

Celebrant The Peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

**Announcements Birthdays and Anniversaries** 

#### **Birthday Prayer**

Watch over your children, O Lord, as their days increase; bless and guide them wherever they may be. Strengthen them when they stand; comfort them when discouraged or sorrowful; raise them up if they fall; and in their hearts may your peace which passes understanding abide all the days of their lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

#### Anniversary Prayer

O God, you have so consecrated the covenant of marriage that in it is represented the spiritual unity between Christ and his Church: Send therefore your blessing upon these your servants, that they may so love, honor, and cherish each other in faithfulness and patience, in wisdom and true godliness, that their home may be a haven of blessing and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

#### **Offertory Sentence**

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

Offertory Hymn

O Master, let me walk with Thee

H 660

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.

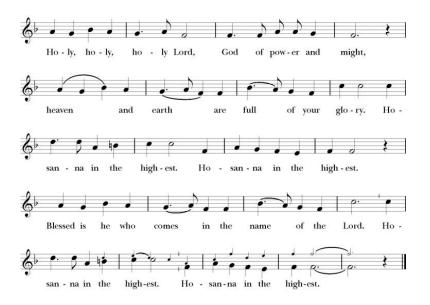
People We lift them to the Lord.

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **People**It is right to give God thanks and praise.

It is truly right to glorify you, Father, and to give you thanks; for you alone are God, living and true, dwelling in light inaccessible from before time and for ever.

Fountain of life and source of all goodness, you made all things and fill them with your blessing; you created them to rejoice in the splendor of your radiance.

Countless throngs of angels stand before you to serve you night and day; and, beholding the glory of your presence, they offer you unceasing praise. Joining with them, and giving voice to every creature under heaven, we acclaim you, and glorify your Name, as we sing:



#### The people stand or kneel

#### Then the Celebrant continues

We acclaim you, holy Lord, glorious in power. Your mighty works reveal your wisdom and love. You formed us in your own image, giving the whole world into our care, so that, in obedience to you, our Creator, we might rule and serve all your creatures. When our disobedience took us far from you, you did not abandon us to the power of death. In your mercy you came to our help, so that in seeking you we might find you. Again and again you called us into covenant with you, and through the prophets you taught us to hope for salvation.

Father, you loved the world so much that in the fullness of time you sent your only Son to be our Savior. Incarnate by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, he lived as one of us, yet without sin. To the poor he proclaimed the good news of salvation; to prisoners, freedom; to the sorrowful, joy. To fulfill your purpose he gave himself up to death; and, rising from the grave, destroyed death, and made the whole creation new.

And, that we might live no longer for ourselves, but for him who died and rose for us, he sent the Holy Spirit, his own first gift for those who believe, to complete his work in the world, and to bring to fulfillment the sanctification of all.

When the hour had come for him to be glorified by you, his heavenly Father, having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end; at supper with them he 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 many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Father, we now celebrate this memorial of our redemption. Recalling Christ's death and his descent among the dead, proclaiming his resurrection and ascension to your right hand, awaiting his coming in glory; and offering to you, from the gifts you have given us, this bread and this cup, we praise you and we bless you.

#### Celebrant and People

We praise you, we bless you, we give thanks to you, and we pray to you, Lord our God.

#### The Celebrant continues

Lord, we pray that in your goodness and mercy your Holy Spirit may descend upon us, and upon these gifts, sanctifying them and showing them to be holy gifts for your holy people, the bread of life and the cup of salvation, the Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ.

Grant that all who share this bread and cup may become one body and one spirit, a living sacrifice in Christ, to the praise of your Name.

Remember, Lord, your one holy catholic and apostolic Church, redeemed by the blood of your Christ. Reveal its unity, guard its faith, and preserve it in peace.

And grant that we may find our inheritance with the Blessed Virgin Mary, with patriarchs, prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and all the saints who have found favor with you in ages past. We praise you in union with them and give you glory through your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, all honor and glory are yours, Almighty God and Father, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, for ever and ever. *AMEN*.

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

#### People and Celebrant

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

#### 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.

#### **Post Communion Prayer**

Celebrant 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 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 for ever. Amen.

#### PRAYER FOR SEARCH OF NEW RECTOR

Almighty God, the fountain of all wisdom, you know our necessities before we ask and ignorance in asking: teach us to know that our lives and futures are in your loving hands, and guide us in the calling of the next rector of the Church of the Transfiguration; grant that we may rely on your loving providence and not trust in our own cleverness, and that we might cast aside our anxieties and follow where you lead as you carry out in tranquility the plan of salvation; through the worthiness of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

#### **Sending of the Eucharistic Visitors**

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 and Dismissal**

The God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, the great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is well-pleasing in his sight; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.** 

**Recessional Hymn** 

Praise to God

H 288

Celebrant Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

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, Meghan, Jan, Chelsea, Bob, Mark, Michael, John, Bob, Billy, Natasha, 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, Anita.

This week at Transfiguration:			
Today	Adult Formation	Leach Hall	9:00am
	Holy Eucharist	Church/FB	10:00am
	Coffee Hour hosted by Anderson family	Leach Hall	11:15am
9/8	Outreach Meeting	Leach Hall	8:45am
	Holy Eucharist	Church/FB	10:00am
	Coffee Hour	Leach Hall	11:15am

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- On Sunday, September 15, right after the 10 am service, CYMC is sponsoring a **Transfiguration Family Reunion Celebration** a great time to reconnect with one another now that summer is winding down. Before we leave the sanctuary and head into Leach Hall for a walking taco lunch, we're going to assemble up at the altar for a family photo (thanks to our resident photographer, Dan Higgins!). Please sign up on the foyer bulletin board. But even if you're not able to stay for lunch plan on being a part of the family pic!
- Also, A QUICK REMINDER-Please sign up for coffee hour. The nursery girls make the coffee, and simple instructions are emailed every week when you sign up. THANK YOU ALL IN ADVANCE FOR DOING SO!!!!
- Our Beds Plus Outreach program volunteers continue to pack lunch bags for the homeless shelters every other weekend. If you would like to make a contribution toward purchasing food items for this ministry plus make your check out to the church and write "Beds Plus" in the memo line.

If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Zack Ottinger at <a href="mailto:zottinger@gmail.com">zottinger@gmail.com</a> Please remember the other ministries we support; including the area Food Pantries and Shower the ShelteR.

Note: You may continue to submit your pledges and offerings by mail or use the credit card payment option Transfigpalos.breezechms.com, or use the text giving option by texting your \$amount plus the word "pledge" to 708-394-7474.

#### CHURCH OF THE TRANSFIGURATION 12219 S. 86<sup>TH</sup> AVE. PALOS PARK, IL

- The Rt. Rev. Paula Clark. Bishop, bishop@episcopalchicago.org
- The Rev. Jason Elliott, Deacon <u>jasonagelliott@gmail.com</u> Cell: 716.560.9718
- Beverly Opelka, Choir Director <u>bev4642@att.net</u>
- Jeff Otto, Music Director jstyles4@yahoo.com
- Debbie Trapp, Director of Children & Youth Ministries <u>trappsrus@sbcglobal.net</u>
- Stephanie Novak, Day Care and Learning Center, Director ppedconnect@outlook.com
- Sue Ann Beardsley, Board President, Palos Park Episcopal Day Care & Learning Ctr. <u>Sueann-b@sbcglobal.net</u>
- Linda Hibberd, Parish Administrator <u>admin@transfigpalos.org</u> Cell phone: 708 203 4915
- Rob Carr, Senior Warden <u>whitelab12@comcast.net</u>
- Zach Ottinger, Junior Warden <u>zottinger@gmail.com</u>
- Members of the Vestry: Diana Beardsley (djbeardsley722@gmail.com),
   Mark Brticevich (mbrticevich@gmail.com), David Dawodu
   (daviddawodu@gmail.com)
   Bryan Fish (bryanfish91@gmail.com),
   Marian Higgins (mhiggins354@icloud.com), Erin Kelly
   ephkelly@yahoo.com), Frank Kuzniewski
   kuzniewskif@epcusd401.org), Judy Stark
   (Judith.stark44@yahoo.com), and John Carroll-Treasurer