



The Church of The Transfiguration

Rooted in Christ ~ Bound in Love ~ Called to Ministry

January 10th, 2021

The First Sunday after the Epiphany: The Baptism of the Lord



*“You are my Son, the Beloved;
with you I am well pleased.” – Mark 1:11*

The Episcopal Church of the Transfiguration

6909 Maryland Avenue . Braddock Heights . Maryland 21714

The First Sunday after the Epiphany
January 10th, 2021

All responses are indicated in bold

The Holy Eucharist: Rite II

Prelude

"When He Cometh"

Young

The Word of God

Gathering Hymn

"Hail to the Lord's Anointed"

616 (vs. 1, 4, 5)

Hail to the Lord's Anointed,
great David's greater Son!
Hail, in the time appointed,
his reign on earth begun!
He comes to break oppression,
to set the captive free;
to take away transgression,
and rule in equity.

Kings shall bow down before him,
and gold and incense bring;
all nations shall adore him,
his praise all people sing;
to him shall prayer unceasing
and daily vows ascend;
his kingdom still increasing,
a kingdom without end.

O'er every foe victorious,
he on his throne shall rest,
from age to age more glorious,
all blessing and all blest;

the tide of time shall never
his covenant remove;
his Name shall stand for ever,
his changeless Name of Love.

*** Opening Acclamation**

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

And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

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.

Song of Praise "Gloria" (*All say*)

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.

*** Collect for The First Sunday after the Epiphany**

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you

Celebrant: Let us pray. Father in heaven, who at the baptism of Jesus in the River Jordan proclaimed him your beloved Son and anointed him with the Holy Spirit: Grant that all who are baptized into his Name may keep the covenant they have made, and boldly confess him as Lord and Savior; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting.
Amen.

Reader: A reading from the Book of Genesis

In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. Then God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light. And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

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

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 29

Congregation joins with Lector in reciting the portions in bold.

- 1 Ascribe to the Lord, you gods, *
ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.
- 2 Ascribe to the Lord the glory due his Name; *
worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness.
- 3 The voice of the Lord is upon the waters;
the God of glory thunders; *
the Lord is upon the mighty waters.
- 4 The voice of the Lord is a powerful voice; *
the voice of the Lord is a voice of splendor.
- 5 The voice of the Lord breaks the cedar trees; *
the Lord breaks the cedars of Lebanon;
- 6 He makes Lebanon skip like a calf, *
and Mount Hermon like a young wild ox.
- 7 The voice of the Lord splits the flames of fire;
the voice of the Lord shakes the wilderness; *
the Lord shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.

- 8 The voice of the Lord makes the oak trees writhe *
and strips the forests bare.
- 9 And in the temple of the Lord *
all are crying, "Glory!"
- 10 The Lord sits enthroned above the flood; *
the Lord sits enthroned as King for evermore.
- 11 The Lord shall give strength to his people; *
the Lord shall give his people the blessing of peace.

The Second Reading

Acts 19:1-7

Reader: A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

While Apollos was in Corinth, Paul passed through the interior regions and came to Ephesus, where he found some disciples. He said to them, "Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you became believers?" They replied, "No, we have not even heard that there is a Holy Spirit." Then he said, "Into what then were you baptized?" They answered, "Into John's baptism." Paul said, "John baptized with the baptism of repentance, telling the people to believe in the one who was to come after him, that is, in Jesus." On hearing this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. When Paul had laid his hands on them, the Holy Spirit came upon them, and they spoke in tongues and prophesied— altogether there were about twelve of them.

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

Thanks be to God.

* 10:15 AM Sequence Hymn

"On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry"

76 (vs. 1, 2, 4)

On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry
announces that the Lord is nigh;
awake and hearken, for he brings
glad tidings of the King of kings.

Then cleansed be every breast from sin;
make straight the way for God within,
and let each heart prepare a home
where such a mighty guest may come.

To heal the sick stretch out thine hand,
and bid the fallen sinner stand;
shine forth, and let thy light restore
earth's own true loveliness once more.

* The Gospel for the Day

Mark 1:4-11

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, According to Mark
Glory to you, Lord Christ.

John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. He proclaimed, "The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Sermon

Fr. Gordon

Musical Interlude

"Heavens Sing with Gladness"

Taize

Celebrant: Let us profess our faith, using the words of 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 and the Son,
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.**

* The Prayers of the People: Form IV

Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess your Name may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world.

(Silence)

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace; that we may honor one another and serve the common good.

(Silence)

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory. Help us protect the natural resources and beauty of this country, preserving them for future generations.

(Silence)

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us. We pray for those on our Parish Cycle of Prayer [*Robert & Audrey Dixon, Paul & Rosemary Dumont, Rick & Jackie Galliher*]. We give thanks for those celebrating birthdays or anniversaries this week [*Frank Willson, Katelynn Miller*]. And we send greetings of love and peace to our companion parish, The Church of St. Mary the Virgin, Bradoc, Cornwall, United Kingdom.

(Silence)

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation. We pray for the sick and infirm, and for those who are grieving. We pray for the homeless and disheartened, for the refugee and outcast, for the lonely and the searching; for individuals and families affected by the coronavirus.

And we pray especially for those listed on the Parish Prayer list printed in the bulletin, and for those who are serving in the Armed Forces.

(Silence)

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

We commend to your mercy all who have died, especially for those who have died as a result of COVID-19. May your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom.

(Silence)

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

(Silence)

Closing Collect

O God, you have bound us together in a common life. Help us, in the midst of our struggles for justice and truth, to confront one another without hatred or bitterness, and to work together with mutual forbearance and respect; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **All: Amen.**

Confession

Celebrant: Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor. *(Silence)*

All: 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.

Absolution

Celebrant: 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. **All: Amen.**

* The Peace

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be with you always

People: And also with you.

Announcements regarding the life of the congregation

The Holy Communion

Offertory Music

"O Love, How Deep, How Broad"

Collinsworth

Presentation of our Gifts & Doxology

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow,
Praise him all creatures here below.
Praise him above ye heavenly host,
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.**

The Great Thanksgiving
Eucharistic Prayer 3

Enriching Our Worship 1

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.

Celebrant: It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and every where to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. Because in the mystery of the Word made flesh, you have caused a new light to shine in our hearts, to give the knowledge of your glory in the face of your son Jesus Christ our Lord. 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:

Sanctus (*All say*)

***Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.***

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Celebrant: Glory and honor are yours, Creator of all. Your Word has never been silent; you called a people to yourself, as a light to the nations, you delivered them from bondage and led them to a land of promise. Of your grace, you gave Jesus to be human, to share our life, to proclaim the coming of your holy reign and give himself for us, a fragrant offering.

Through Jesus Christ our Redeemer, you have freed us from sin, brought us into your life, reconciled us to you, and restored us to the glory you intend for us.

We thank you that on the night before he died, Jesus took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, gave it to his disciples and said: "Take, eat, this is my Body, broken for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper Jesus took the cup of wine, said the blessing, gave it to his disciples and said: "Drink this, all of you: this cup is the new Covenant in my Blood, poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me."

And so, remembering all that was done for us: the cross, the tomb, the resurrection and ascension, longing for Christ's coming in glory, and presenting to you these gifts your earth has formed and human hands have made, we acclaim you, O Christ:

Celebrant and People

**Dying, you destroyed our death. Rising, you restored our life.
Christ Jesus, come in glory!**

Celebrant: Send your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these gifts of bread and wine that they may be to us the Body and Blood of your Christ. Grant that we, burning with your Spirit's power, may be a people of hope, justice and love.

Giver of Life, draw us together in the Body of Christ, and in the fullness of time gather us with all your people into the joy of our true eternal home.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, we worship you our God and Creator in voices of unending praise.

Celebrant and People

Blessed are you now and for ever. AMEN.

The Lord's Prayer

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

**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

Enriching our Worship

We break this bread
to share in the Body of Christ.

**We who are many are one body,
for we all share in the one bread.**

While the celebrant takes the bread and the cup, the congregation says together:

Prayer for a Spiritual Communion

In union, O Lord, with your faithful people at every altar of your Church, where the Holy Eucharist is now being celebrated, I desire to offer to you praise and thanksgiving. I remember your death, Lord Christ; I proclaim your resurrection; I await your coming in glory. And since I cannot receive you today in the Sacrament of your Body and Blood, I beseech you to come spiritually into my heart. Cleanse and strengthen me with your grace, Lord Jesus, and let me never be separated from you. May I live in you, and you in me, in this life and in the life to come. Amen.

Music at Communion
"Sing to God"

Taize

Post Communion Prayer

Let us pray.

**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.**

The Blessing

May God, who sent the Holy Spirit to rest upon the Only-begotten at his baptism in the Jordan River, pour out that Spirit on you who have come to the waters of new birth; and the blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you always. **Amen**

Closing Hymn

"As with Gladness Men of Old"

119 (vs. 1, 3, 5)

As with gladness men of old
did the guiding star behold;
as with joy they hailed its light,
leading onward, beaming bright;
so, most gracious Lord, may we
evermore be led to Thee.

As they offered gifts most rare
at that manger rude and bare;
so may we with holy joy,
pure and free from sin's alloy,
all our costliest treasures bring,
Christ! to thee, our heavenly King.

In the heavenly country bright,
need they no created light;
thou its light, its joy, its crown,
thou its sun which goes not down;
there forever may we sing
alleluias to our King.

Dismissal

Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

Thanks be to God!

Postlude

"Songs of Thankfulness and Praise"

Wold

*Please remain logged in after the Zoom service
if you wish to join your friends in a social hour.*

Today's Ministers

Celebrant	Fr. Gordon De La Vars
Co-Celebrant	Rev. Ellen Hurwitz
Lector	Terri Greszler
Organist	Truuke Ameigh
Technician	Scott Myers
Altar Guild	Sue Wirths
Flower Guild	Ruth Wallace

A Prayer for Those Affected by the Coronavirus

O God of compassion, giver of life and health, we pray your healing mercies upon all who are in any way affected by the outbreak of the COVID-19 coronavirus. Comfort and sustain those who have been stricken; relieve their pain, and restore to them your gifts of gladness and strength. Grant to all in authority the courage to make wise decisions that are essential for the common good, and strengthen them to lead institutions that care for those whom they serve. Protect those who are compelled to work farms and fields, city streets and factories, that put them in danger with little pay. Watch over all first responders and those in the medical professions whose duty it is to care for the sick; guard them from all danger, and keep them safe in the knowledge that is through their sacrifice and service that the health of the whole community is promoted. Mercifully accept these our prayers, O God of all comfort, and our only help in time of need, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Parish Prayer Lists

Diocese of Maryland

St Anne's, Annapolis; St Luke's, Eastport; St Margaret's, Annapolis; Kathryn E. Beaver; Margaret S. Brach; Thomas M. A. Clement; Derek H. Miller; Peter J. Vazquez-Schmitt

January Prayers for Body, Mind & Spirit

David Powell, Pamela Jackson, John Wall, Ray & Faye Grimes, John Rolph, John Wisor, Mark Glagola, Joanne Dupui, Betty Hedges, Barbara Stephens, Toni Beaird-Wilson, Donna Hanson, Mary Belcher, Kimberly & Jordan Beckler, Jonathan & Katie Ross, Pearl O'Hara, Dorothy Beaird, Savannah Bryant Ross, Marsha Burrell, Sherri Luttrell, Dale Sanders, Stuart Delchamps, Bob Dixon, Georgie Shane, Marilyn Roche, Dajalee Hilton, Joe Loetell, Ruth Ann Randall, Sheila Anzalone, Lorrunda Sewell, Jerry Kursban, Rev. Michael Adams, Analia Lutz & Family, Sally Ashley, Beverly Johnson, Gail Koglmeier, Robin & Greg Rugie, Steve, Ian Tisdale, Derek Chapman, Kristin LaRocca, Michelle Dickson, Geoff Barry, James Byun, Bett Williams, Andrea Davis, Linda Lewis, Mia Webdell, Brenda Hoffman, Valerie Webdell, Melvin Smith, Joey Jackson, Georgiann Ammon, Dwight Courtemanch, Mark Masciarelli, Ethan and Judy Roberts, Seth Roberts, Meghan Roberts, Andrea Shears, Steve Hess, Karen Hess, Roy Reuter, Cheryl Jackson, Timothy Myers, Sandy Reagan, Jim Wonderly

Weekly Parish Cycle of Prayer

Robert & Audrey Dixon, Paul & Rosemary Dumont, Rick & Jackie Galliher

Prayers for Returning Health and Healing

Christine Burnett, Linda Myers, Cynthia Sakshaug, Helen Glagola, Al Peden, Barbara Stephens, Craig Zearfoss, George Roberts, Katherine Aaslestad, Paul Dumont, Stephen Nelson, Bridgette Hubbard, Kathleen Moss, James Belcher, Jr., George Wheehler, Tracy Skaggs, The Rev. Ellen Hurwitz+, Rowan Evans, Debbie Knipe

Birthdays and Anniversaries

Frank Willson, Katelynn Miller

Serving in the Armed Forces

Nicholas Berry, Gabriel Affandy, Stacey Groth, Ed Groth, Erik Masick, Seth Green, Cade McCarty, Johnny Russell, Scott Orton, Kurtis Bickett, The Rev. Sean Wead, J. Andrew & Alyssa M. Hinkle, Christian Lewis, Antonio Ventura, Patrick Furini, Izaiah Weaver, Cooper Hampton, Dylan Boyd, Garrett Hutchison, Connor Hosier

UPCOMING EVENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please be sure to livestream the Diocesan service at the Cathedral, beginning at 11 AM this morning. You may go to the Diocesan webpage for links and instructions.

Middletown Food Bank

The Middletown Bank is in desperate need of funds to purchase items to help offset the shortage of normally donated goods during this pandemic. For those wanting to donate, please make checks out to the Middletown Food Bank, and they can be sent to the manager's address at:

Phyllis Thompson
206 Conebranch Drive
Middletown, MD 21769

A Note About Pledging

Earlier this month, you received a letter containing pledge information. I am happy to report that we have had 22 forms returned pledging \$86,144.

Our 2020 pledge and plate amounts are down \$20,000 for the year and will probably stay down for now. I would like to ask you to maintain your pledges and send back the pledge form in the addressed envelope you received.

We are in troubling times and will most likely be there for a long while. Transfiguration will be here for you. Please support your church.

Craig Zearfoss,
Treasurer

UPCOMING EVENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Environmental Justice Training Program

Have you wondered how to be an ally for environmental justice issues? Often, there is a disproportionate impact of environmental degradation on marginalized communities, and effective allyship is essential to helping to solve these problems. The Maryland Environmental Human Rights Campaign put on a very effective Environmental Justice Training program in October and November (you can watch the three speakers at MDEHR.org). On January 14, as a follow-up to requests by participants on training for how to be an effective ally, MDEHR offers a 1.5 hour event with speaker Mariah Davis, of the Choose Clean Water Coalition, who will speak about allyship in the environmental advocacy spaces. Go to www.mdehr.org/actions for more information and to RSVP (Zoom link will be sent when you register).

Giving Tree Update

The Giving Tree project was a great success. Ten local children received clothing and gifts requested on their wish lists because of the love and generosity of our members. The requested gifts along with several gift cards for groceries and gas were delivered to the Religious Coalition on December 22 so the children could have their gifts for Christmas Day. Many thanks to everyone who contributed. Many thanks also to Sue Wirths and Ruth Wallace for setting up the tree and collection bins in the narthex, to Jasmine Malcolm for helping to sort and label the gifts and to Jasmine and Mary Belcher for encouraging us to continue our tradition despite the challenges of the pandemic and shipping delays.

MACS Frederick Spiritual Walk

The Evangelical Reformed United Church of Christ is hosting the January Spiritual Walk this afternoon, Sunday January 10. 2-3:30 pm at Catoctin Creek Park (2929 Summantown Road, Middletown ~ between Jefferson and Middletown).

The Church of the Transfiguration

The Reverend Dr. Gordon Williams De La Vars, Rector
The Reverend Ellen Hurwitz, Priest Associate
Ms. Truuke Ameigh, Minister of Music
Ms. Jackie Galliher, Choir Director

SUNDAY SCHEDULE

8:00 A.M. Holy Eucharist
9:00 A.M. Adult Christian Education
10:15 A.M. Holy Eucharist with Music
11:30 A.M. Hospitality

Prayers for Healing and Anointing
Follow each service on the 1st Sunday of the month

WEEKDAY SCHEDULE

Mon-Thurs @ 9:00 A.M. Morning Prayer

Office Hours

Mon-Fri 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM

6909 Maryland Avenue
PO Box 87
Braddock Heights, MD 21714
Phone: 301.371.7505
Fax: 301.371.9389
www.thechurchofthetransfiguration.com