



The Church of The Transfiguration

Rooted in Christ ~ Bound in Love ~ Called to Ministry

November 15th, 2020

Twenty-Fourth Sunday after Pentecost



*"Open wide our hands in sharing,
as we heed Christ's ageless call,
healing, teaching, and reclaiming,
serving you by loving all." (Hymn 716)*

The Episcopal Church of the Transfiguration

6909 Maryland Avenue · Braddock Heights · Maryland 21714

Twenty-Fourth Sunday after Pentecost
November 15th, 2020

All responses are indicated in bold

The Holy Eucharist: Rite II

Prelude

Prelude on "Beach Spring"

Young

The Word of God

Gathering Hymn

"Come, Labor On"

541 (vs. 1, 3, 5)

Come, labor on.

Who dares stand idle on the harvest plain,
while all around us waves the golden grain?
And to each servant does the Master say,
"Go work today."

Come, labor on.

Away with gloomy doubts and faithless fear!
No arm so weak but may do service here:
by feeblest agents may our God fulfill
his righteous will.

Come, labor on.

No time for rest, till glows the western sky,
till the long shadows o'er our pathway lie,
and a glad sound comes with the setting sun.
"Servants, well done."

* 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"

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 Day

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray. Blessed Lord, who caused all holy Scriptures to be written for our learning: Grant us so to hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life, which you have given us in our Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

All: Amen.

A Prayer for the Right Use of God's Gifts

Almighty God, whose loving hand has given us all that we possess: Grant us grace that we may honor you with our substance, and, remembering the account which we must one day give, may be faithful stewards of your bounty, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The First Reading

Zephaniah 1:7,12-18

Reader: A reading from the Book of Zephaniah

Be silent before the Lord God!

For the day of the Lord is at hand;

the Lord has prepared a sacrifice,
he has consecrated his guests.

At that time I will search Jerusalem with lamps,
and I will punish the people

who rest complacently on their dregs,
those who say in their hearts,

“The Lord will not do good,
nor will he do harm.”

Their wealth shall be plundered,
and their houses laid waste.

Though they build houses,
they shall not inhabit them;

though they plant vineyards,
they shall not drink wine from them.

The great day of the Lord is near,
near and hastening fast;

the sound of the day of the Lord is bitter,
the warrior cries aloud there.

That day will be a day of wrath,
a day of distress and anguish,

a day of ruin and devastation,
a day of darkness and gloom,

a day of clouds and thick darkness,
a day of trumpet blast and battle cry

against the fortified cities
and against the lofty battlements.

I will bring such distress upon people
that they shall walk like the blind;
because they have sinned against the Lord,
their blood shall be poured out like dust,
and their flesh like dung.

Neither their silver nor their gold
will be able to save them
on the day of the Lord's wrath;

in the fire of his passion
the whole earth shall be consumed;

for a full, a terrible end
he will make of all the inhabitants of the earth.

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

Psalm 90:1-8, (9-11), 12

Congregation joins with Lector in reciting the portions in bold.

- 1 Lord, you have been our refuge *
from one generation to another.
- 2 Before the mountains were brought forth,
or the land and the earth were born, *
from age to age you are God.
- 3 You turn us back to the dust and say, *
"Go back, O child of earth."
- 4 For a thousand years in your sight are like yesterday when it is past *
and like a watch in the night.
- 5 You sweep us away like a dream; *
we fade away suddenly like the grass.
- 6 In the morning it is green and flourishes; *
in the evening it is dried up and withered.

- 7 For we consume away in your displeasure; *
we are afraid because of your wrathful indignation.
- 8 Our iniquities you have set before you, *
and our secret sins in the light of your countenance.
- 9 [When you are angry, all our days are gone; *
we bring our years to an end like a sigh.
- 10 The span of our life is seventy years,
perhaps in strength even eighty; *
**yet the sum of them is but labor and sorrow,
for they pass away quickly and we are gone.**
- 11 Who regards the power of your wrath? *
who rightly fears your indignation?]
- 12 So teach us to number our days *
that we may apply our hearts to wisdom.

The Second Reading

1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

Reader: A reading from the First Letter of Paul to the Thessalonians

Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do not need to have anything written to you. For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. When they say, "There is peace and security," then sudden destruction will come upon them, as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and there will be no escape! But you, beloved, are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you like a thief; for you are all children of light and children of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness. So then let us not fall asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober; for those who sleep sleep at night, and those who are drunk get drunk at night. But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, and put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, who died for us, so that whether we

are awake or asleep we may live with him. Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.

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

Thanks be to God.

Sequence Hymn

“God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending”

716 (red)

God, whose giving knows no ending,
from your rich and endless store,
nature's wonder, Jesus' wisdom,
costly cross, grave's shattered door:
gifted by you, we turn to you,
offering up ourselves in praise;
thankful song shall rise forever,
gracious donor of our days.

Skills and time are ours for pressing
toward the goals of Christ, your Son:
all at peace in health and freedom,
races joined, the church made one.
Now direct our daily labor,
lest we strive for self alone.
Born with talents, make us servants
fit to answer at your throne.

Treasure, too, you have entrusted,
gain through powers your grace conferred:
ours to use for home and kindred,
and to spread the gospel word.
Open wide our hands in sharing,
as we heed Christ's ageless call,
healing, teaching, and reclaiming,
serving you by loving all.

The Holy Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ, According to Matthew
Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus said, "It is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.' But his master replied, 'You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter? Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'"

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Sermon

Fr. Gordon

Musical Interlude

Variation on "Solid Rock"

Ameigh

* The Apostles' Creed

BCP pg. 96

Let us profess our faith, using the words of the Apostles' Creed.

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth;**

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the Virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.**

He descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven,

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

* The Prayers of the People: Form III

Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church;
That we all may be one.

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and
humbly serve you;
That your Name may be glorified by all people.

We pray for all lay persons, bishops, priests, and deacons;
**That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and
Sacraments.**

We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations
of the world;

That there may be justice and peace on the earth.

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;

That our works may find favor in your sight.

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;

That they may be delivered from their distress.

Give to the departed eternal rest.

Let light perpetual shine upon them.

We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;

May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others. We pray for all those affected by the Coronavirus, remembering those who have died, and for their families and communities. Please pray for those on our prayer lists [*The Watkins family, The Williams family, Patricia Williams*], those celebrating birthdays and anniversaries this week [*Janet Roberts, Fr. Gordon De La Vars, Dennis & Lorraine Hoffman, Scott & Linda Myers*], and those in the Armed Forces. And we send greetings of love and peace to our companion parish, The Church of St. Mary the Virgin, Bradoc, Cornwall, United Kingdom; we pray to you, O Lord. *Silence*

Closing Collect

God of every nation, Father of the human family, we give you thanks for the freedoms we exercise and the blessings we enjoy as citizens of this country. We ask your protection and guidance for all who devote themselves to the common good, working for justice and peace both at home and across the world. We lift up our elected leaders and public servants, especially the President and the President-Elect, legislators and judges, and those in the military and law enforcement. Heal us from our differences and unite us in common purpose, dedication, and commitment to the ideals of liberty and the welfare of all people. We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Confession

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

**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

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. **All: Amen.**

* The Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always
And also with you.

Birthday and Anniversary Blessings

Announcements regarding the life of the congregation

The Holy Communion

Music at the Offertory

"My Lord, What a Morning"

Solo by Bernadette Roche

arr. Ameigh

* 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 A

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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. For by water and the Holy Spirit you have made us a new people in Jesus Christ our Lord, to show forth your glory in all the world. 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

***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.

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all. He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, 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 many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me." Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him.

Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. 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.

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

Dearest Lord Jesus, I love you above all things, and I long for you in my soul. Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, please come spiritually into my heart. I embrace you and unite myself entirely to you, joining my prayer with those who also must be absent from worship today and with all those who are suffering. Never let us be parted from you. Grant us grace to live our lives in your peace and with steadfast love; for your tender mercies' sake. Amen.

Music at Communion

2 Settings of "Westminster Abbey"

Callahan

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

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 with you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Closing Hymn

“O God, Our Help In Ages Past”

680

O God, our help in ages past,
our hope for years to come,
our shelter from the stormy blast,
and our eternal home:

Under the shadow of thy throne,
thy saints have dwelt secure;
sufficient is thine arm alone,
and our defense is sure.

Before the hills in order stood,
or earth received her frame,
from everlasting thou art God,
to endless years the same.

A thousand ages in thy sight
are like an evening gone;
short as the watch that ends the night
before the rising sun.

Time, like an ever-rolling stream,
bears all our years away;
they fly, forgotten, as a dream
dies at the opening day.

O God, our help in ages past,
our hope for years to come,
be thou our guide while life shall last,
and our eternal home.

Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

Postlude

"St. Anne's Fugue" Section A

J.S. Bach

*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 | Bill Spare |
| Organist | Truuke Ameigh |
| Soloist | Bernadette Roche |
| Technician | Scott Myers |
| Altar Guild | Sue Wirths |
| Flower Guild | Sue Wirths |

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

Holy Trinity, Baltimore; St Bartholomew's, Baltimore; Memorial, Baltimore; Mario R. Conliffe; David J. Ware; Kristen Krantz

November 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 Beard-Wilson, Donna Hanson, Mary Belcher, Kimberly & Jordan Beckler, Jonathan & Katie Ross, Pearl O'Hara, Dorothy Beard, 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

The Watkins family, The Williams family, Patricia Williams

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

Janet Roberts, Fr. Gordon De La Vars, Dennis & Lorraine Hoffman, Scott & Linda Myers

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

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

17th Annual Interfaith Candlelight Prayer Walk (Virtual) for the Hungry and Homeless

Below is the link to register for Frederick Interfaith's Annual Candlelight Hunger and Homeless walk that will be virtual this evening starting at 7 PM.

If you are a presenter or offering a prayer, don't forget to register to have access to the zoom link. We are so happy to have you join this year as you share your expertise, your heart, your prayers, concerns and wishes for our community. Without you, Frederick would not be the same.

For the many others in our community and beyond we know that every day we can make a difference in another's life and I know that every one of you are doing something towards that end. Some may scratch their heads and wonder what more you can do? I feel confident that after hearing our 6 presenters and the prayers of several multi-faith clergy and laypersons that you will be inspired to take this event back into your life with new ideas, renewed hope, and with the needs of our community in your heart and mind.

We look forward to seeing and hearing you on our first ever virtual Please invite your friends, colleagues, and family as well.

Frederick Interfaith

<https://virtualprayerwalk.eventbrite.com/>

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

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