

Transfiguration Sunday

Holy Eucharist, Rite I – 8:00am, February 11, 2024



St. Mark's Episcopal Anglican Church

Fairland Parish

Rev. Dr. Christopher I. Wilkins, Rector

Holy Eucharist, Rite I

Transfiguration Sunday

The Celebrant proceeds to the Altar and says:

Opening Rites

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

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

Celebrant: Almighty God, unto 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.*

Hear what our Lord Jesus Christ saith: Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it: Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.

The Cantor leads the People in singing the following:

Venite *Psalm 95:1-7*

O come, let us sing unto the Lord; *

let us heartily rejoice in the strength of our salvation.

Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving *

and show ourselves glad in him with psalms.

For the Lord is a great God, *

and a great King above all gods.

In his hand are all the corners of the earth, *

and the strength of the hills is his also.
The sea is his, and he made it, *
and his hands prepared the dry land.

O come, let us worship and fall down, *
and kneel before the Lord our Maker.
For he is the Lord our God, *
and we are the people of his pasture
and the sheep of his hand.

O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness; *
let the whole earth stand in awe of him.
For he cometh, for he cometh to judge the earth, *
and with righteousness to judge the world
and the peoples with his truth.

The Collect of the Day

The Celebrant continues:

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And with thy spirit.

Celebrant: Let us pray.

The Celebrant says the Collect.

O God, who before the passion of thy only-begotten Son didst reveal his glory upon the holy mount: Grant unto us that we, beholding by faith the light of his countenance, may be strengthened to bear our cross, and be changed into his likeness from glory to glory; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

The Liturgy of the Word

The Old Testament Lesson

2 Kings 2:1-12

2 Now when the LORD was about to take Elijah up to heaven by a whirlwind, Elijah and Elisha were on their way from Gilgal. ² Elijah said to Elisha, “Stay here, for the LORD has sent me as far as Bethel.” But Elisha said, “As the LORD lives and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.” So they went down to Bethel. ³ The company of prophets who were in Bethel came out to Elisha and said to him, “Do you know that today the LORD will take your master away from you?” And he said, “Yes, I know; keep silent.”

⁴ Elijah said to him, “Elisha, stay here, for the LORD has sent me to Jericho.” But he said, “As the LORD lives and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.” So they came to Jericho. ⁵ The company of prophets who were at Jericho drew near to Elisha and said to him, “Do you know that today the LORD will take your master away from you?” And he answered, “Yes, I know; keep silent.”

⁶ Then Elijah said to him, “Stay here, for the LORD has sent me to the Jordan.” But he said, “As the LORD lives and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.” So the two of them went on. ⁷ Fifty men of the company of prophets also went and stood at some distance from them, as they both were standing by the Jordan. ⁸ Then Elijah took his mantle and rolled it up and struck the water; the water was parted to the one side and to the other, and the two of them crossed on dry ground.

⁹ When they had crossed, Elijah said to Elisha, “Tell me what I may do for you before I am taken from you.” Elisha said, “Please let me inherit a double share of your spirit.” ¹⁰ He responded, “You have asked a hard thing, yet if you see me as I am being taken from you, it will be granted you; if not, it will not.” ¹¹ As they continued walking and talking, a chariot of fire and horses of fire separated the two of them, and Elijah ascended in a whirlwind into heaven. ¹² Elisha kept watching and crying out, “Father, father! The chariots of Israel and its horsemen!” But when he could no longer see him, he grasped his own clothes and tore them in two pieces.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Psalm of the Day: *Deus deorum*

Psalm 50:1-6

The Cantor chants the Psalm.

- ¹ The LORD, the God of gods, has spoken; *
he has called the earth from the rising of the sun to
its setting.
- ² Out of Zion, perfect in its beauty, *
God reveals himself in glory.
- ³ Our God will come and will not keep silence; *
before him there is a consuming flame,
and round about him a raging storm.
- ⁴ He calls the heavens and the earth from above *
to witness the judgment of his people.
- ⁵ "Gather before me my loyal followers, *
those who have made a covenant with me
and sealed it with sacrifice."
- ⁶ Let the heavens declare the rightness of his cause; *
for God himself is judge.

Second Reading: *Disciplines of the Spirit* by Howard Thurman¹

To Jesus, God breathed through all that is: the sparrow overcome by sudden death in its flight; the lily blossoming on the rocky hillside; the grass of the field and the clouds, light and burdenless or weighted down with unshed waters; the madman in chains or wandering among the barren rocks in the wastelands; the little baby in his mother's arms; the strutting insolence of the Roman Legion, the brazen queries of the tax collector; the children at play or old men quibbling

¹ A Reading from the *Season of Creation: A Celebration Guide for Episcopal Parishes* (2023).

in the market place; the august Sanhedrin fighting for its life amidst the arrogances of empire; the whisper of those who had forgotten Jerusalem, the great voiced utterance of the prophets who remembered – to Jesus, God breathed through all that is.

Reader: Here ends the reading.

People: Amen.

The Gospel

Mark 9:2-9

Then, all standing, a Deacon or Priest reads the Gospel, first saying

Deacon: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to *Mark*.

People: Glory be to thee, Lord Christ.

²Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and John and led them up a high mountain apart, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, ³and his clothes became dazzling bright, such as no one on earth could brighten them. ⁴And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses, who were talking with Jesus. ⁵Then Peter said to Jesus, “Rabbi, it is good for us to be here; let us set up three tents: one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.” ⁶He did not know what to say, for they were terrified. ⁷Then a cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud there came a voice, “This is my Son, the Beloved; listen to him!” ⁸Suddenly when they looked around, they saw no one with them any more, but only Jesus.

⁹As they were coming down the mountain, he ordered them to tell no one about what they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead.

Deacon: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to thee, Lord Christ.

The Sermon: Rabbi, it is Good

The Creed

As Deacon or Priest prepares the table, the LEM leads the People as they say:

We believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible;

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of his Father before all worlds,

God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made;

who for us and for our salvation came down from heaven, was incarnate by the Holy Ghost of the Virgin Mary, was made human, and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate, suffered and was buried;

and on the third day rose again according to the Scriptures, and ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of the Father, and shall come again, with glory, to judge both the quick and the dead, whose kingdom shall have no end.

And *we* believe in the Holy Ghost the Lord, and Giver of Life, who proceedeth from the Father *and the Son*; who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified; who spake by the Prophets. And *we* believe one holy Catholic and Apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins; and look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

The Prayers of the People

The LEM says

Let us pray for the whole state of Christ's Church and the world.

We pray for all God's people; for our bishops, our clergy, and this gathering, and for all ministers and people. Pray for the Church.

Silence

We pray for peace; for goodwill among nations, for justice, and for the well-being of all.

Silence

We pray for the poor, the sick, the hungry, the oppressed, and those in prison. We pray for those in any need or trouble.

Silence

We pray for all who seek God, or a deeper knowledge of God. Pray that they may seek, and pray that they might find.

Silence

We pray for those who have lost their faith, or who have never known it. Pray that God may open their minds, and grace move their hearts, to know and to follow Christ's way of love.

Silence

We pray for the departed [*especially N.N.*]. Pray for those who have died.

Silence

We pray for those on our prayer list, and for those whose needs are known to you alone.

Silence

The Celebrant adds a concluding collect.

Confession of Sin

If the confession is not omitted, the Deacon or Celebrant then says

Let us humbly confess our sins unto Almighty God.

Silence is kept. The People, led by the LEM, then say

Almighty God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, maker of all things, judge of all people:

We acknowledge and bewail our manifold sins and wickedness, which we from time to time most grievously have committed, by thought, word, and deed, against thy divine Majesty, provoking most justly thy wrath and indignation against us.

We do earnestly repent, and are heartily sorry for these our misdoings; the remembrance of them is grievous unto us, the burden of them is intolerable.

Have mercy upon us, have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; for thy Son our Lord Jesus Christ's sake, forgive us all that is past; and grant that we may ever hereafter serve and please thee in newness of life, to the honor and glory of thy Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Bishop when present, or the Priest, alone stands and says

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who of his great mercy hath promised forgiveness of sins to all those who with hearty repentance and true faith turn unto him, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and bring you to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Words of Comfort

A Minister may then say one or more of the following sentences, first saying

Hear the Word of God to all who truly turn to God.

Come unto me, all ye that travail and are heavy laden, and I will refresh you. Mt. 11:28

God so loved the world, that he gave his only-begotten Son, to the end that all that believe in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. *John 3:16*

This is a true saying, and worthy to be received, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners. *1 Timothy 1:15*

If anyone sin, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; the perfect offering for our sins, and not ours only, but the sins of the whole world. *1 Jn 2:1-2*

The Peace

The People stand.

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you,

People: And with thy spirit.

The Ministers and People greet one another while keeping physical distance.

The Holy Eucharist: The Great Thanksgiving

Celebrant: The Lord be with you,

People: And with thy spirit.

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up unto the Lord.

Celebrant: Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.

People: It is meet and right so to do.

Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds

It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God, 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 with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; evermore praising thee, and saying,

The People, led by the LEM, 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.

The people kneel or stand. The Celebrant continues

All glory be to thee, Almighty God, our heavenly Father, for that thou didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption; who made there a full, perfect, and sufficient sacrifice, oblation, and satisfaction, for the sins of the world; and did institute, and in his holy Gospel command us to continue, this remembrance of his death and sacrifice, until his coming again.

For in the night in which he was betrayed, he took bread; and when he had given thanks, he brake it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take, eat, this is my Body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me." ‡

Likewise, after supper, he took the cup; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink ye all of this; for this is my Blood of the New Testament, which is shed for you, and for many, for the remission of sins. Do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me." ‡

We beseech thee, O merciful Father, to hear us, and to bless and sanctify, with thy Word and Holy Spirit, these gifts and creatures of bread and wine; that we, receiving them according to thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ's holy institution, in remembrance of his death and passion, may be partakers of his most blessed Body and Blood.

And here we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, our selves, our souls and bodies, to be a reasonable, holy, and living sacrifice unto thee; beseeching thee that we, and all who shall partake of this Holy Communion, may worthily receive the Body and Blood of thy Son Jesus Christ, be filled with thy grace and benediction, and made one body with him, that he may dwell in us, and we in him.

By whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost, all honor and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end. AMEN.
‡‡

Now, as Christ taught us, we are bold to say,

The People, led by the LEM, pray

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 (Fraction)

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread, and then keeps a period of silence.

The following or some other suitable fraction anthem may be sung or said here

Celebrant: Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

People: Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!

As the Celebrant sets out the gifts, the LEM may lead the People in this prayer

We do not presume to come to this thy Table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in thy manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so

much as to gather up the crumbs under thy Table. But thou art the same Lord whose property it is always to have mercy. Grant us, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.

The Celebrant says:

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

The People come forward to receive the gifts.

Post-Communion Prayer

After Communion, the Celebrant says

Let us pray. *The Celebrant prays*

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.

Announcements

Announcements, if any, are made here.

Blessing and Dismissal

The Bishop, if present, or the Celebrant says

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you.

The Lord be with you, this day and always, and give you peace.

The LEM says

Let us go forth, in peace, to love and serve the Lord.

The Celebrant, the LEM, and the People depart, maintaining physical distance.

The Flowers on the altar are given today to the Glory of God by Jess and Mala Rowland in Memory of Stephen and Beulah Rowland, Jess' parents and by Ann and Don Hague in Thanksgiving for Beau Donald Hague's birthday.

*Our services and events may be live-streamed and/or recorded. By entering the service/event premises, you consent to photography, audio recording, video recording and its/their release, publication, exhibition, or reproduction to be used for live streaming, promotional purposes, advertising, inclusion on web sites, and/or any other purpose by St. Mark's Episcopal Church. *

If you would prefer not to be shown on camera, please sit out of range of the video camera.

LEM/Reader

Kim Hazel

St. Mark's Announcements

1. **Sunday Adult Study and Discussion:** in the Parish Hall and via Zoom, Sundays, 9:05-10:10 am. All are welcome. Please see Rev. Christopher for more information.

Our current topic of study: The 1st Book of Enoch and Other Pseudepigrapha.

Our next topic of study: Walter Rauschenbusch and the Social Gospel Movement.

2. **Altar Flowers:** Beginning with Easter and through the season of Epiphany, you may sponsor the Altar Flowers for any Sunday or major feast day in memory of your loved ones, a birthday, an anniversary, or any other suitable occasion – or even just because. The sign-up book with details is in the church office or, on Sundays, in the narthex (at the back of the church). Please contact the office for more information or to support this part of our worship.

3. **Assisting with Worship and Other Ministries:** We welcome and encourage you to serve at either worship service as Lector (Reader), Intercessor, Lay Eucharistic Ministers (LEM), Lay Eucharistic Visitors (LEV), Acolyte, Usher, and Greeter. We also would welcome a new Head of Outreach, or a team of leaders, to lead this ministry, and new members to the Fellowship Committee, Counter Team, and Altar Guild. Please see Rev. Christopher if you would like to serve in any of these roles.
4. **Tending Our Soil:** The TOS team, focused on St. Mark's vitality as a congregation, is seeking two new members. TOS is currently working on a few projects: a Vision, Mission, and Goals statement; and making the Sanctuary more welcoming for people with small children. If you are interested, please see Rev. Wilkins.
Tending Our Soil is putting together a small team to take input from the congregation and public on the "Welcoming Children" project and then design it. This project should take fewer than 90 days. To express interest, please contact Beth Walton in person or by texting 240-461-1647.
5. **Bag Lunches for Elizabeth House:** On the 3rd Sunday of each month, following the 8:00am service, St. Mark's Outreach ministry makes bag lunches for those in need at Elizabeth House. St. Mark's is looking for volunteers to help make these bag lunches. Please contact Linda Toran or the office if you would like to volunteer.
6. **Coffee Hour Hosting:** Please consider helping to host the *Coffee Hour* following the 10:30 service. Help is needed with setup, cleanup, and purchasing. There is a sign-up notebook located on the wall beside the coffee pot in the Parish Hall. The notebook includes instructions on what a host needs to do. We give thanks for all those who help with this ministry of hospitality.
7. **Financial Oversight Committee (FOC) Meeting:** Tuesday, February 20, 2024, at 7:00pm in the library. Please let the Parish Administrator know if you would like to attend this meeting via Zoom.
8. **Vestry Meeting:** Tuesday, February 27, 2024, at 7:00pm in the Parish Hall. Please let the Parish Administrator know if you would like to attend this meeting Zoom.

Please check your e-letters and the website for the most up-to-date information.

Save the Date

Wednesday, February 14, 2024: Ash Wednesday services:

1. Holy Eucharist and Imposition of Ashes, Riderwood Chapel, 10:30am.
2. Morning Prayer with Imposition of Ashes, St. Mark's Church, 11:30 am.
3. Sung Vespers with Imposition of Ashes, St. Mark's Church, 7:00 pm.

Parable of the Sower Book Study and Discussion:

Meetings will be held in the Library, on Sundays, from noon to 1:30pm, following coffee hour. The dates and discussion themes, will be as follows:

1. Sunday, February 18th – Chapters 1-4, “God is Change”
2. Sunday, February 25th – Chapters 5-9, “Belief Initiates and Guides Action”
3. Sunday, March 3rd – Chapters 10-13, “When Apparent Stability Disintegrates”
4. Sunday, March 10th – Chapters 14-16, “Kindness Eases Change”
5. Sunday, March 17th – Chapters 17-20, “Embrace Diversity, or Be Destroyed”
6. Sunday, March 24th – Chapters 21-25, “To Shape God, Shape Self”

Please see the signup sheet in the Parish Office if you would like to join the sessions.

St. Mark's Mission

- ❖ *We will deepen our faith* by adopting more liturgical options to reach out into the community.
- ❖ *We will extend our outreach* by getting more people involved in and reaching more people through community involvement.
- ❖ *We will embrace evangelism* by choosing to be a church that reaches out to our community and spread the good news of Christ.

❖ *We will increase our participation* by being committed to our church through regular attendance, and giving of our resources of time, talent, and treasure.

St. Mark's Episcopal Church, Fairland, MD

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Parish Office hours: Monday – Friday, 10:00 am – 2:00 pm and by appointment. Rector regular office hours: Tuesday – Thursday, 10-4. Please call, text, or email the rector if you would like to schedule an appointment; prepare for baptism, confirmation, first communion, reception, reaffirmation, or reconciliation; or have a pastoral need or concern.

The Rev. Dr. Christopher Wilkins, Rector

rector@stmarks-silverspring.org * Cell: 301-768-3075 * 301-622-5860 ext. 105

Janis Smith, Parish Administrator

administrator@stmarks-silverspring.org * 301-622-5860 ext. 104

Don Hague, Director of Music

Keira Vargas, Parish Secretary

Pamela Gibson, Senior Warden

Rosanne Tingley, Junior Warden

For information about St. Mark's, please visit our website:

www.stmarksfairland.org * www.stmarks-silverspring.org

We hope that today's service has been a blessing to you.

We are here to serve you and hope to see you again.

Please feel free to call us, email us, or visit us online.

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