

Transfiguration Sunday

Holy Eucharist, Rite 2 – 10:30am, February 11, 2024



St. Mark's Episcopal Anglican Church

Fairland Parish

Rev. Dr. Christopher I. Wilkins, Rector

Holy Eucharist, Rite II

Transfiguration Sunday

Prelude

The Celebrant says:

Nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your rising.
Please rise as our worship begins with (*the entrance hymn*).

Entrance Hymn: *Ye watchers and ye holy ones*

Hymn #618

Refrain: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia! alleluia!

1. Ye watchers and ye holy ones,
bright seraphs, cherubim, and
thrones, raise the glad strain,
Alleluia! Cry out, dominions,
princedom, powers, virtues,
archangels, angels' choirs, *Refrain*

2. O higher than the cherubim,
more glorious than the seraphim,
lead their praises, Alleluia! Thou
bearer of the eternal Word, most
gracious, magnify the Lord, *Refrain*

3. Respond, ye souls in endless rest,
ye patriarchs and prophets blest,
Alleluia, alleluia! Ye holy twelve, ye
martyrs strong, all saints triumphant
raise the song, *Refrain*

4. O friends, in gladness let us sing,
supernal anthems echoing, Alleluia,
alleluia! To God the Father, God
the Son, and God the Spirit, Three
in One, *Refrain*

Opening Rites and the Collect of the Day

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

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

Celebrant: Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Song of Praise: *Serve the Lord with Gladness, Alleluia* LEVAS 278

Please see musical insert.

Hear what our Lord Jesus Christ said: You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Celebrant: Let us pray.

The Celebrant says the Collect.

O God, who before the passion of your only-begotten Son revealed his glory upon the holy mountain: Grant to 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 Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you 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 Choristers will chant 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

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

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 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.

Gradual Hymn: *O Light of Light, Love given birth*

Hymn #133

1. O Light of Light, Love given birth; Jesus, Redeemer of the earth: more bright than day your face did show, your raiment whiter than the snow.

2. Two prophets, who had faith to see, with your elect found company;

the heavens above your glory named, your Father's voice his son proclaimed;

3. May all who seek to praise aright through purer lives show forth your light. To you, the King of glory, now all faithful hearts adoring bow.

The Gospel

Mark 9:2-9

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

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

People: Glory to you, 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. ⁷ Then a cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud there came a voice, "This is my Son, the Beloved; listen to him!" ⁸ Suddenly when they looked around, they saw no one with them any more, but only Jesus.

⁹ As 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.

Celebrant: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon: Rabbi, it is Good

The Creed

Led by the LEM, the People say

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
The 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:
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made 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*.

With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.

He 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

The LEM or Reader 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.

The Confession of Sin

The LEM or Minister appointed says

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence is kept. The People stand or kneel. The LEM or Minister leads the People as they say

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, alone 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.

Another Minister using the preceding form shall substitute “us” for “you” and “our” for “your.”

The Peace

The People stand.

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

People: And also with you.

The Ministers and People greet one another at physical distance.

Choral Anthem: *Love divine, all loves excelling* C. Wesley, D. Willcocks

A Deacon or Priest, the LEM, and acolytes prepares the altar and sanctuary for the Eucharist.

The Holy Eucharist: The Great Thanksgiving

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.

Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant continues

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, through Jesus Christ our Lord; 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 with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all who have looked to you in hope, to proclaim your glory:

Sanctus

Hymnal #S-127

The Choristers lead the People as they sing:

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 Celebrant continues

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in your Word made flesh: Jesus, your Son. For in the fullness of time you sent him among us to live and die as one of us, the Savior and the Redeemer of the world. In him you deliver us from evil, and make us worthy to stand before you. In him, you bring us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, and out of death into life.

On the night before he was betrayed unto death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread. Giving thanks to you, he broke it, and shared it with them, saying:

“Take, eat: This is my Body which is given for you. Do this in memory of me.”

‡

As supper was ending, Jesus took the cup, gave thanks, and shared it with them, saying:

“Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this in memory of me.” ‡

Therefore, according to his command, O Lord,

The People, led by the LEM, say

We remember his death,
We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory;

The Celebrant continues

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all, presenting to you from your creation this bread and this wine, fruit of the vine and the work of human hands. Send your Holy Spirit upon them that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit to live as Christ's Body in the world. Bring us to that heavenly country where with Mary, the Mother of God, and all your saints, we may enter into the everlasting heritage of all your children, through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the church, and the author of our salvation.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, now and forever. AMEN. ‡‡

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

The Lord's Prayer

LEVAS 264

The LEM leads the People as they sing:

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 debts as we forgive
our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,
for ever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread (Fraction)

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

The Choristers lead the People in singing

Fraction Anthem: *Christ our Passover*

Hymnal #S-151

Cantor: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

All respond: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Cantor: Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us; therefore let us keep the feast.

All respond: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

The Celebrant sets forth the gifts and says

The Gifts of God for the people of God.

The People come forward to receive the gifts.

Communion Hymn: *Alleluia! Sing to Jesus!*

Hymn #460, vss. 1,3,4

1. Alleluia! sing to Jesus! his the
scepter, his the throne; Alleluia! his
the triumph, his the victory alone;
Hark! the songs of peaceful Zion

thunder like a mighty flood; Jesus
out of every nation hath redeemed
us by his blood.

3. Alleluia! Bread of Heaven, thou
on earth our food, our stay!
Alleluia! here the sinful flee to thee
from day to day: Intercessor, friend
of sinners, earth's Redeemer, plead
for me, where the songs of all the
sinless sweep across the crystal sea.

4. Alleluia! King eternal, thee the
Lord of lords we own: Alleluia! born
of Mary, earth thy footstool, heaven
thy throne: thou within the veil hast
entered, robed in flesh, our great
High Priest: thou on earth both
Priest and Victim in the eucharistic
feast.

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.

Withdrawal Hymn:

The Church's one foundation

Hymn #525, vss. 1,2,4,5

1. The Church's one foundation is
Jesus Christ her Lord; she is his new
creation by water and the word:
from heaven he came and sought
her to be his holy bride; with his
own blood he bought her, and for
her life he died.

2. Elect from every nation, yet one
o'er all the earth, her charter of
salvation, one Lord, one faith, one
birth; one holy Name she blesses,
partakes one holy food, and to one
hope she presses, with every grace
endued.

4. Mid toil and tribulation, and
tumult of her war she waits the
consummation of peace for
evermore; till with the vision
glorious her longing eyes are
blessed, and the great Church
victorious shall be the Church at
rest.

5. Yet she on earth hath union with
God, the Three in One, and mystic
sweet communion with those whose
rest is won. O happy ones and holy!
Lord, give us grace that we like
them, the meek and lowly, on high
may dwell with thee.

The Altar Party and the People depart.

The LEM says

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

*Please join us in the Parish Hall for **St. Mark's Annual Meeting** and light refreshments.*

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.

Readers and Intercessor

1st Reader: Olivia Lee

2nd Reader: Janis Smith

Intercessor: Colleen Sampson

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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office@stmarks-silverspring.org * 301-622-5860 ext. 180

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

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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