

# The Last Sunday of Epiphany

## The Transfiguration

February 19, 2023

St. George's Church, Glenn Dale Parish  
Episcopal Diocese of Washington

Welcome to St. George's! We are glad to see you this morning, whether in person or virtually. Zoom participants are welcome to leave your video camera on; at certain points during the service participants in the sanctuary will see the gallery view of those taking part in the service via Zoom.

### Prelude: *I Love to Tell the Story*

### Opening Hymn: Hymnal #7 *Christ whose glory fills the skies*

Words: Charles Wesley (1707-1788) Music: *Ratisbon* from *Geystliche gesangh Buchleyn*, 1524

Adapted and harmonized by William Henry Havergal (1793-1870). Hymns reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-701323



Christ, whose glo - ry fills the skies, Christ the true, the on - ly Light,  
Dark and cheer - less is the morn un - ac - com - pan - ied by thee;  
Vis - it then this soul of mine! Pierce the gloom of sin and grief!



Sun of Right - eous - ness, a - rise! Tri - umph o'er the shades of night:  
joy - less is the day's re - turn, till thy mer - cy's beams I see,  
Fill me, ra - dian - cy di - vine; scat - ter all my un - be - lief;



Day-spring from on high, be near; Day-star, in my heart ap - pear.  
till they in - ward light im - part, glad my eyes, and warm my heart.  
more and more thy - self dis - play, shin - ing to the per - fect day.

### Opening Acclamation and Prayer

**Celebrant:** Christ is our everlasting light.

**People:** **And God is our glory.**

**Celebrant:** Blessed be the one, holy, and living God.

**People:** **Glory to God forever and ever. Amen.**

*All pray together:* **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 - My Heart Sings Out #80 *The Light of Christ*

Words and Music: Donald Fishel (b. 1950) © 1974 Word of God Music admin. T.C.C. Reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-701323

The light of Christ has come in - to the world. The  
The light of Christ has come in - to the world.  
light of Christ has come in - to the world. world.  
The light of Christ has come come.

The image shows a musical score for a song. It consists of three systems of music, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment line. The first system has a vocal line starting with a double bar line and a repeat sign, followed by the lyrics 'The light of Christ has come in - to the world. The'. The piano accompaniment starts with a double bar line and a repeat sign, followed by a series of notes. The second system has a vocal line with the lyrics 'The light of Christ has come in - to the world.' and a piano accompaniment with the same lyrics. The third system has a vocal line with the lyrics 'light of Christ has come in - to the world. world.' and a piano accompaniment with the lyrics 'The light of Christ has come come.'. The piano accompaniment in the third system has a first ending bracket over the final two notes and a second ending bracket over the final note.

*Celebrant:* The Lord be with you.

**People:** And also with you.

*Celebrant:* Let us pray together the Collect for the Day:

**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.**

## 2 Peter 1:13-21

I think it right, as long as I am in this body, to refresh your memory, since I know that my death will come soon, as indeed our Lord Jesus Christ has made clear to me. And I will make every effort so that after my departure you may be able at any time to recall these things.

We did not follow cleverly devised myths when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we had been eyewitnesses of his majesty. For he received honor and glory from God the Father when that voice was conveyed to him by the Majestic Glory, saying, "This is my Son, my Beloved, with whom I am well pleased." We ourselves heard this voice come from heaven, while we were with him on the holy mountain.

So we have the prophetic message more fully confirmed. You will do well to be attentive to this as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts. First of all you must understand this, that no prophecy of scripture is a matter of one's own interpretation, because no prophecy ever came by human will, but men and women moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God.

The Word of the Lord. **People: Thanks be to God.**

## Psalm 99

You are king O Lord, and the people tremble

**you sit enthroned upon the cherubim, and the earth is quaking.**

You O Lord are great upon your holy mountain:

**you are exalted over all the nations**

Let them praise your great and terrible name

**holy are you and mighty, a king who delights in justice.**

You have established equity

**you have dealt justice and righteousness in Jacob.**

We proclaim your greatness O Lord our God

**we bow down before your footstool for you are holy.**

Moses and Aaron among your priests, and Samuel among those who called on your name:

**these called to you O Lord and you answered.**

You spoke to them out of the pillar of cloud

**they kept your teachings and the law that you gave them.**

You answered them O Lord our God

**to them you were a God who forgives, though you punished their offences.**

We proclaim your greatness O Lord our God

**we bow down towards your holy hill, for you O Lord our God are holy.**

## Gospel Hymn: Hymnal 1982 #675 *Take up your cross* Verses 1, 2 and 5

Words: Charles William Everest (1814-1877) Music: *Bourbon* Freeman Lewis (1780-1859) Hymns reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-701323



Take up your cross, the Sa-vior said, if you would my dis - ci - ple be; take  
Take up your cross, let not its weight fill your weak spir - it with a - larm; his  
Take up your cross, and fol - low Christ, nor think till death to lay it down; for



up your cross with will - ing heart, and hum - bly fol - low af - ter me.  
strength shall bear your spir - it up, and brace your heart, and nerve your arm.  
on - ly those who bear the cross may hope to wear the glo - rious crown.



The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mathew. **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**  
**Matthew 17:1-9**

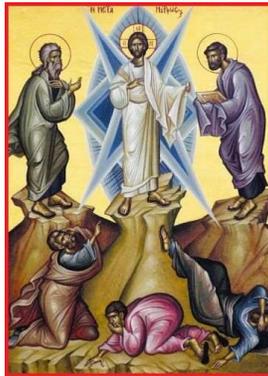
Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became dazzling white. Suddenly there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him. Then Peter said to Jesus, "Lord, it is good for us to be here; if you wish, I will make three dwellings here, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah."

While he was still speaking, suddenly a bright cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud a voice said, "This is my Son, the Beloved; with him I am well pleased; listen to him!" When the disciples heard this, they fell to the ground and were overcome by fear. But Jesus came and touched them, saying, "Get up and do not be afraid." And when they looked up, they saw no one except Jesus himself alone.

As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus ordered them, "Tell no one about the vision until after the Son of Man has been raised from the dead."

The Gospel of the Lord: **Praise to you Lord Christ.**

**The Sermon: Terry Doyle, TSSF**



**The Creed: *We believe***

Words: Terry Doyle, TSSF paraphrase of the *Apostles Creed*. Music: *Omni die*, from *Gross Catolisch Gesangbuch*, 1631.  
Harmony, William Smith Rockstro (1823-1895). Wonder, Love and Praise #742. Hymns reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-701323



We be-lieve God, our Cre - a - tor makes our world and calls it good,  
We be-lieve God be-came hu-man when the Word em-braced our flesh.  
We be-lieve that Je - sus gave all, dy - ing on a cross for love.  
We be-lieve that Christ in glo - ry comes a - gain to be our judge,  
We be-lieve God is e - ter-nal, Spir - it, Word and Cre - a - tor;



form - ing heav-ens, earth and crea-tures, each a mir-ror of God's love.  
Child of Ma - ry from the Spir - it, Je - sus humb-ly walked on earth.  
Then Christ rose to con-quer all death, and as-cend-ed, One with God.  
re - con - cil - ing with for-give-ness, bring-ing peace to all on earth.  
and the dead are raised to new life, liv - ing in God's end - less love.

## The Prayers of the People

O God of splendor and glory, we pray to you as we remember how Jesus was transfigured before the disciples, saying Jesus, Beloved Face of God: **Transfigure our hearts and minds that we may follow you more faithfully.**

O God of splendor and glory, ignite the spirits of all who lead in your church, that they may be a beacon to guide us across life's troubled waters toward the wholeness of life in you. We pray especially for Michael our presiding bishop, Mariann our bishop, Connie our rector, and the people of St. George's, saying Jesus, Beloved Face of God: **Transfigure our hearts and minds that we may follow you more faithfully.**

O God of splendor and glory, illuminate the halls of governments in our country and across this world with your saving wisdom and grace. Guide our voices to speak only with love and compassion on behalf of all your people. We pray saying Jesus, Beloved Face of God: **Transfigure our hearts and minds that we may follow you more faithfully.**

O God of splendor and glory, we pray for those who most need to feel your healing love and to know the comfort of your enduring Presence. We pray this morning for those who are hungry in our community; for those experiencing homelessness; for those suffering the effects of the earthquake in Turkey and Syria, and for all caught in the violence of war. We pray also for those on our parish prayer list, and for those we name before you now: *The people may add their own petitions.* We pray saying Jesus, Beloved Face of God: **Transfigure our hearts and minds that we may follow you more faithfully.**

O God of splendor and glory, let our departed loved ones be received in the holy whirlwind of your divine radiance, and may the light of Christ shine through the darkest hours for those who mourn. *The people may add their own petitions.* We pray saying Jesus, Beloved Face of God: **our hearts and minds that we may follow you more faithfully.**

O God of splendor and glory, we offer you our thanks and praise for all of the blessings of our lives, and especially for those celebrating birthdays and anniversaries. We pray saying Jesus, Beloved Face of God: **Transfigure our hearts and minds that we may follow you more faithfully.**

Holy One of blessing, help us to live in the light of your transfigured Son, that we may follow him faithfully and know your presence with us. **Amen.**

## The Confession and Absolution

*Celebrant:* Now let us confess our sins to God. *Silence is kept.*

*All pray together* **God of steadfastness and mercy, we confess that we love the works of darkness more than your light. We have sought to satisfy our deepest longings through material things of creation rather than through you, our Creator. We are quick to judge others, yet we fail to see our own failings. We ignore the cries of the poor, and grow weary of working for justice. Forgive and restore us, O God; let your Holy Spirit move in us and inspire us to walk in the light of Christ, this day and always. Amen.**

*Celebrant:* Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

## The Peace

*Celebrant:* The peace of the Lord be always with you.

**People:** **And also with you.**

## Blessings for Birthdays & Anniversaries

O God, our times are in your hand: Look with favor, we pray, on your servant(s) and anyone celebrating their birthday or anniversary this week as they begin another year. Grant that they may grow in wisdom and grace, and strengthen their trust in your goodness all the days of their lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## The Offertory

Do good works and share what you have, for these are the sacrifices pleasing to God.

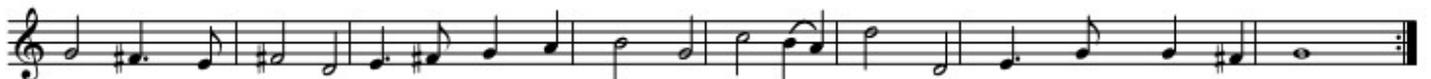
*Many thanks for your financial support of St. George's. We encourage you to give electronically wherever possible. Text stgeodragon to 72356. Or just use your web browser to go to [www.onrealm.org/StGeorgesChurch/Give](http://www.onrealm.org/StGeorgesChurch/Give). You may also donate via Zelle to [donations@stgeorgesglennedale.org](mailto:donations@stgeorgesglennedale.org). Or you may use Cash App to send your donation to \$StGeorgesGlennDale. Baskets at the doors of the Sanctuary may be used for donations of checks or cash.*

## Offertory Hymn: Hymnal #473 *Lift high the cross*

Words: George William Kitchin (1827-1912) Music: *Crucifer*, Sydney Hugo Nicholson (1875-1947) Hymns reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-701323



Lift high the cross, the love of Christ pro-claim till all the world a-dore his sa-cred Name.



Led on their way by this tri - um-phiant sign, the hosts of God in con-quer-ing ranks com-bine.  
Each new-born ser-vant of the Cru - ci - fied bears on the brow the seal of him who died.  
O Lord, once lift-ed on the glo-rious tree, as thou hast prom-ised, draw the world to thee.  
So shall our song of tri-umph ev - er be: praise to the Cru - ci - fied for vic - to - ry.

## 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.

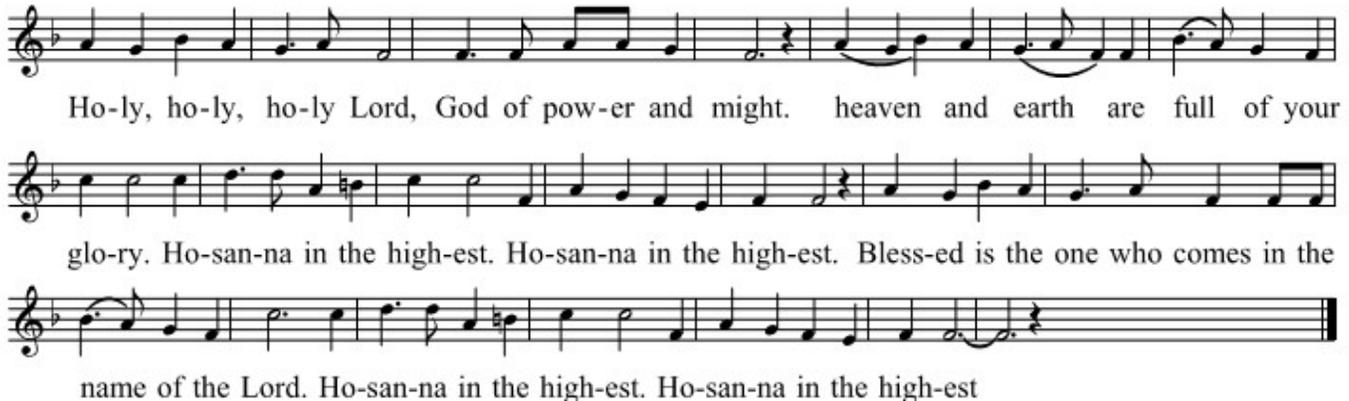
**People:** **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

*The Celebrant continues:*

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, almighty God, 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 forever sing this hymn in voices of unending praise:

**Sanctus: Hymnal 1982 #S 125 *Holy, holy, holy Lord***

Setting from *A Community Mass*; Richard Proulx (b. 1937) Hymns reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-701323



Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho-ly Lord, God of pow-er and might. heaven and earth are full of your  
glo-ry. Ho-san-na in the high-est. Ho-san-na in the high-est. Bless-ed is the one who comes in the  
name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high-est. Ho-san-na in the high-est

Glory and thanksgiving be to you, O Holy One, for in Jesus the Messiah you have come to us as the Word made flesh. Our hope is built on him in whom you are well pleased, your beloved Son Jesus.

**Declaring the nearness of your kingdom, Jesus forgave sinners, cast out demons, raised the dead, and restored those in need of healing. He gathered disciples to continue to declare the good news in word and deed, bringing light to the world in the power of your Holy Spirit.**

And so we remember that on the night he was betrayed, Jesus gathered with his faltering friends for a meal that tasted of freedom. Calling them to his table, Jesus took bread, gave thanks, broke it and said “This is my body, which is given for you. Do this to remember me.”

In the same way after supper, he took the cup, saying “This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, whenever you drink it, to remember me.”

Therefore, according to his command O God,

**We remember his death; we proclaim his resurrection; we await his coming in glory.**

Made one with Christ and one with each other, we now offer you these gifts, and with them ourselves, a holy and living sacrifice. And now most gracious God, we ask you to send your Holy Spirit upon us and upon this bread and this wine, that they may be the Body and Blood of your Son, and that we may be kindled with the fire of your love and renewed for the service of your kingdom.

We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord, by whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honor and glory is yours Holy One of Blessing, now and forever. **Amen.**

## **The Lord's Prayer – Contemporary Version**

Celebrant: And now in the Light of Christ, we pray,

**Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done  
on earth as it is in heaven.**

**Give us today our daily bread.**

**Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those  
who sin against us.**

**Save us from the time of trial,  
and deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours,  
now and forever. Amen**

## **The Breaking of the Bread**

*The bread is broken and silence is kept*

### **Fraction Anthem: Gather #247 May We Be One**

Words: Rory Cooney (b. 1952) Music: Gary Daigle (b. 1957). © 1993 G. I. A. Publications, Inc. Reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-701323



When we eat this bread and drink this cup we pro-claim your death, Lord Je - sus.



So as we share this feast may we be come, heal-ing and light and peace. May we be one.

*Celebrant:* Mindful that not all are present physically to receive the sacrament, we pray with those who receive spiritual Holy Communion this day:

**Lord Jesus, in union with your faithful people, we offer to you our praise and thanks. Since we cannot receive you today in the Sacrament of your Body and Blood, we pray that you come spiritually into our hearts. Strengthen us with your grace, O Lord, and let us never be separated from you. May we live in you, and you in us, in this life and in the life to come. Amen.**

*Celebrant:* The gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ lived, died, and rose again for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

## The Communion

*Wherever you are on your journey, whatever you believe or don't believe, know that you are welcome at this table. For this is Christ's table, and all are welcome.*



### Communion Hymn 1: LEVAS #64 *I Love To Tell the Story*

Word: A Katherine Hankey (1831-1911) Music: William G. Fischer (1835-1912) Hymns reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-701323

I love to tell the sto - ry of un - seen things a - bove,  
I love to tell the sto - ry, for those who know it best

Of Je - sus and his glo - ry, of Je - sus and his love.  
Seem hun - ger - ing and thirst - ing to hear it, like the rest.

I love to tell the sto - ry be - cause I know it's true;  
And when in scenes of glo - ry, I sing the new, new song,

It sat - is - fies my long - ings as noth - ing else would do.  
'Twill be the old, old sto - ry that I have loved so long.

**Refrain**

I love to tell the sto - ry; 'Twill be my theme in glo - ry.

To tell the old, old sto - ry of Je - sus and his love.

## Communion Hymn 2: Hymnal 1982 #711 *Seek ye first the kingdom of God*

Words and Music: Karen Lafferty (20<sup>th</sup> century) Hymns reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-701323



Seek ye first the king - dom of God and its right - eous - ness,  
Ask, and it shall be giv en un - to you, seek, and ye shall find,



and all these things shall be add - ed un - to you; Al - le - lu, al - le - lu - ia!  
knock, and the door shall be o - pened un - to you; Al - le - lu, al - le - lu - ia!

Refrain



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,



Al - le - lu, al - le - lu - ia!

### Post- Communion Prayer

*Celebrant:* Let us pray: **Generous and nourishing God, in word and bread and wine we have celebrated the mysteries of your love: As we go forth into the world, we ask you to assist us with your grace, that we may live as signs of your wonders in the world, loving one another and sharing your light wherever we go, through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.**

### Announcements



### The Blessing

Let us go forth in light to honor our God and share what we know of the risen Christ.  
And now may God strengthen you and bless you with peace;  
May Christ Jesus bring justice for you and among you;  
And may the Holy Spirit alight on you and affirm you as God's beloved, this day and always.  
**Amen.**



## Dismissal Hymn: Hymnal 1982 #618 *Ye Watchers and Ye Holy Ones*

Words: John Athlestan Laurie Riley (1858-1945). Music: *Lasstuns erfreuen* from *Auserlesens Catholisch Geistliche Kirchengeseng*.  
Hymns reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-701323

Ye watch-ers and ye ho - ly ones, bright ser - a - phs, cher - u - bim, and  
O high - er than the cher - u - bim, more glo - rious than the ser - a -  
Re - spond, ye souls in end - less rest, ye pa - tri - archs and pro - phets  
O friends in glad - ness let us sing su - per - nal an - thems ech - o -

thrones, raise the glad strain, Al - le - lu - ia! Cry out, do - min - ions, prince - doms,  
- phim, lead their prais - es, Al - le - lu - ia! Thou, bear - er of the e - ter - nal  
blest, Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia! Ye ho - ly twelve, ye mar - tyrs  
- ing, Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia! To God the Fa - ther, God the

powers, vir - tues, arch - an - gels, an - gels' choirs, Al - le - lu - ia, al - le -  
Word, most gra - cious, mag - ni - fy the Lord,  
strong, all saints tri - um - phant raise the song,  
Son, and God the Spir - it, Three in One,

- lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

### Dismissal

*Celebrant:* Let us go forth in the Light of Christ.

*People:* **Thanks be to God!**

**Postlude: *Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart***