

The Season After **PENTECOST**

St. Stephen's Episcopal Church

Saint Stephen's welcomes everyone who wishes to follow Christ, worship together, grow in faith and share God's love through service to others.

FEAST OF THE TRANSFIGURATION OF JESUS

9:30 am Wednesday, 6 August 2025

[From Lessor Feasts & Fasts](#)



The Transfiguration is not to be understood only as a spiritual experience of Jesus while at prayer, which three chosen disciples, Peter, James, and John, were permitted to witness. It is one of a series of spiritual manifestations by which God authenticated Jesus as his Son. It is at one with the appearance of the angels at the birth and at his resurrection, and with the descent of the Spirit at Jesus' baptism.

Matthew records the voice from heaven saying, "This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him" (Matthew 17:5). Briefly the veil is drawn aside, and a chosen few are permitted to see Jesus, not only as the human son of Mary, but also as the eternal Son of God. Moses and Elijah witness to Jesus as the fulfillment of the Law and the Prophets. In Luke's account of the event, they speak of the "exodus" which Jesus is to accomplish at Jerusalem. A cloud, a sign of divine presence, envelops the disciples, and a

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Opening Acclamation:

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

People: And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

Presider: Let us pray:

All: 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.

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.**

The Collect:

Presider: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Presider: Let us pray

All: O God, who on the holy mount revealed to chosen witnesses your well-beloved Son, wonderfully transfigured, in raiment white and glistening: Mercifully grant that we, being delivered from the disquietude of this world, may by faith behold the King in his beauty; who with you, O Father, and you, O Holy Spirit, lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

LITURGY OF THE WORD: *(Please be seated for the lessons)*

The First Lesson - A Reading from Exodus (34:29-35):

Moses came down from Mount Sinai. As he came down from the mountain with the two tablets of the covenant in his hand, Moses did not know that the skin of his face shone because he had been talking with God. When Aaron and all the Israelites saw Moses, the skin of his face was shining, and they were afraid to come near him. But Moses called to them; and Aaron and all the leaders of the congregation returned to him, and Moses spoke with them. Afterward all the Israelites came near, and he gave them in commandment all that the Lord had spoken with him on Mount Sinai. When Moses had finished speaking with them, he put a veil on his face; but whenever Moses went in before the Lord to speak with him, he would take the veil off, until he came out; and when he came out, and told the Israelites what he had been commanded, the Israelites would see the face of Moses, that the skin of his face was shining; and Moses would put the veil on his face again, until he went in to speak with him.

Reader The Word of the Lord

People Thanks be to God

The Psalm

Psalm 99:5-9

**5 Proclaim the greatness of the Lord our God
and fall down before his footstool; *
he is the Holy One.**

**6 Moses and Aaron among his priests,
and Samuel among those who call upon his Name, *
they called upon the Lord, and he answered them.**

**7 He spoke to them out of the pillar of cloud; *
they kept his testimonies and the decree that he gave them.**

**8 O Lord our God, you answered them indeed; *
you were a God who forgave them,
yet punished them for their evil deeds.**

**9 Proclaim the greatness of the Lord our God
and worship him upon his holy hill; *
for the Lord our God is the Holy One.**

The Second Lesson - A Reading from 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.

For 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.

Reader The Word of the Lord

People Thanks be to God

Gospel Lesson: Luke (9:28-36)

Deacon: The Holy Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke

People: **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus took with him Peter and John and James, and went up on the mountain to pray. And while he was praying, the appearance of his face changed, and his clothes became dazzling white. Suddenly they saw two men, Moses and Elijah, talking to him. They appeared in glory and were speaking of his departure, which he was about to accomplish at Jerusalem. Now Peter and his companions were weighed down with sleep; but since they had stayed awake, they saw his glory and the two men who stood with him. Just as they were leaving him, Peter said to Jesus, “Master, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah” —not knowing what he said. While he was saying this, a cloud came and overshadowed them; and they were terrified as they entered the cloud. Then from the cloud came a voice that said, “This is my Son, my Chosen; listen to him!” When the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone. And they kept silent and in those days told no one any of the things they had seen.

The Gospel of the Lord People: **Praise be to you, Lord Christ**

Homily

Nicene Creed (Traditional) All say together

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man.

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.

Prayers of the People Form VI

Leader: In peace, we pray to you, Lord God. For all people in their daily life and work;

People: For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.

Leader: For this community, the nation, and the world;

People: For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.

Leader: For the just and proper use of your creation;

People: For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.

Leader: For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;

People: For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.

Leader: For the peace and unity of the Church of God;

People: For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.

Leader: For Sean, our Presiding Bishop, and, Jennifer our Bishop; and for all bishops and other ministers;

People: For all who serve God in his Church.

Leader: In the Diocesan cycle of prayer, we pray for *Church of the Transfiguration, in Mesa.*

In the Anglican cycle of prayer, we pray for *The Diocese of Nimule – Province of the Episcopal Church of South Sudan.*

We pray also for the Apache and Tahono O’Odom first-peoples who call this area their home

People: For neighbors near and far that God may bless and keep them.

Leader: For the special needs and concerns of this congregation.

(The People may add their own petitions, aloud or silently)

Leader Hear us, Lord;

People For your mercy is great.

Leader: We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life.

(The People may add their own thanksgivings, aloud or silently)

Leader We will exalt you, O God our King;

People: And praise your Name for ever and ever.

Leader: We pray for all who have died, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom. (people remember those who have died)

Leader: Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;

People: Who put their trust in you.

Confession of Sin

Deacon: We pray to you also for the forgiveness of our sins.

(a short pause)

All: Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; in your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone; and so uphold us by your Spirit that we may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Absolution

Presider: 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**

Exchange of the Peace

Presider: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

All And also with you.

The Ministers and People may greet one another in the name of the Lord.

The Offertory

Presider: Walk in love as Christ loved us and gave himself as a offering and sacrifice to God.

Doxology (Hymn #380 v. 3)

**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. Amen.**

The Holy Communion

The Great Thanksgiving

Rite II C

Presider: The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Presider: Lift up your hearts.

People We lift them to the Lord.

Presider: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Presider: God of all power, Ruler of the Universe, you are worthy of glory and praise.

People: Glory to you for ever and ever.

At your command all things came to be: the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses, and this fragile earth, our island home.

By your will they were created and have their being.

From the primal elements you brought forth the human race, and blessed us with memory, reason, and skill. You made us the rulers of creation. But we turned against you, and betrayed your trust; and we turned against one another.

Have mercy, Lord, for we are sinners in your sight.

Again and again, you called us to return. Through prophets and sages you revealed your righteous Law. And in the fullness of time you sent your only Son, born of a woman, to fulfill your Law, to open for us the way of freedom and peace.

By his blood, he reconciled us. By his wounds, we are healed.

And therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all those in every generation who have looked to you in hope, to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn:

Sanctus -

**Holy, Holy, Holy my Heart, my Heart, adores you!
My Heart is glad to say the words,
You are Holy, Lord.**

Presider continues:

And so, Father, we who have been redeemed by him, and made a new people by water and the Spirit, now bring before you these gifts. Sanctify them (+) by your Holy Spirit to be the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ our Lord.

On the night he was betrayed he took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, and gave it to his friends, 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, gave thanks, 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."

Remembering now his work of redemption, and offering to you this sacrifice of thanksgiving:

**We celebrate his death and resurrection,
as we await the day of his coming.**

Lord God of our Fathers: God of Sarah and Abraham, Rebekah and Isaac, Rachel and Jacob; God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ: Open our eyes to see your hand at work in the world about us. Deliver us from the presumption of coming to this Table for solace only, and not for strength; for pardon only, and not for renewal.

Let the grace of this Holy Communion make us one body, one spirit in Christ, that we may worthily serve the world in his name.

Risen Lord, be known to us in the breaking of the Bread.

Accept these prayers and praises, Father, through Jesus Christ our great High Priest, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, your Church gives honor, glory, and worship, from generation to generation. **AMEN.**

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

Lord's Prayer(Traditional)

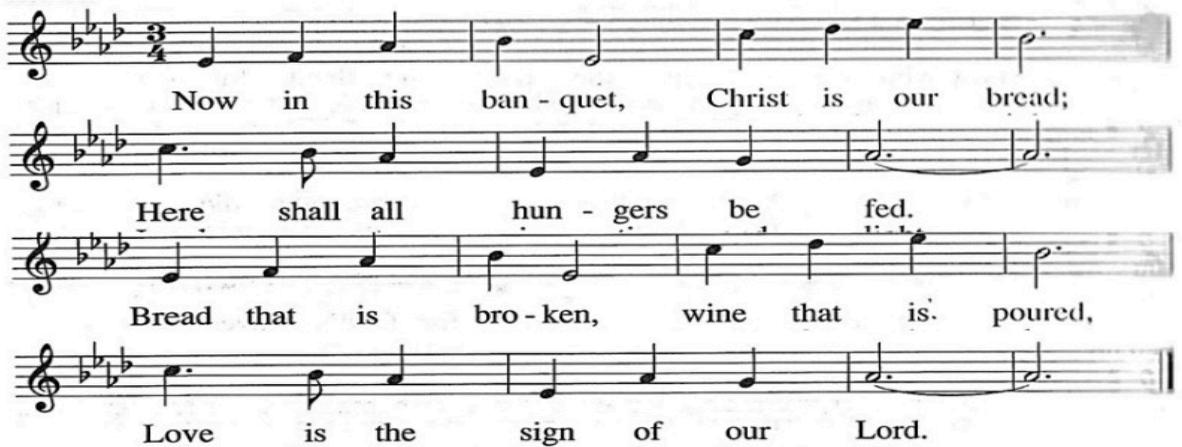
Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread

(Presider breaks the consecrated bread)

Fraction Anthem

G #825 Refrain only Now in this banquet



Now in this ban - quet, Christ is our bread;
Here shall all hun - gers be fed.
Bread that is bro - ken, wine that is poured,
Love is the sign of our Lord.

Invitation to Communion:

Presider: Come to this table, you who have much faith and you who would like to have more; you who have been to this sacrament often and you who have not been for a long time; you who have tried to follow Jesus and you who have failed. Come, it is Jesus the Christ who invites us to meet him here.

All are welcome and invited to come to The Lord's Supper and receive communion in this church. It is gluten free bread and real wine. To dip/intinct your bread into the wine and then consume it, please come to the left altar rail. To eat your bread and then sip wine from the cup, please come to the right altar rail. To receive a blessing instead of the bread and wine, come to either rail and cross your arms over your chest and we will give you a blessing.

Prayers for Birthdays, Anniversaries, Healing, Travel, and Gratitude

Post Communion Prayer

Presider: Let us pray:

All: 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.

Benediction:

Presider: May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all, now and forever more. **Amen.**

Dismissal

Deacon: People of St. Stephen's, what does God call us to do?

People: We are called to love and serve.

Deacon: Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in God's Spirit. Alleluia! Alleluia!

People **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia, (*Alleluia!*)**

[Continued from front:](#)

heavenly voice proclaims Jesus to be the Son of God.

Immediately thereafter, Jesus announces to Peter, James, and John the imminence of his death. As Paul was later to say of Jesus, "Though he was in the form of God, he did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied himself, taking the form of a servant, and was born in human likeness. And, being found in human form, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even death on a cross" (Philippians 2:6-8).

The Feast of the Transfiguration is held in the highest esteem by the Eastern Churches. The figure of the transfigured Christ is regarded as a foreshadowing of the Risen and Ascended Lord. The festival, however, was only accepted into the Roman calendar on the eve of the Reformation, and for that reason was not originally included in the reformed calendar of the Church of England. Since its inclusion in the American liturgical revision of 1892, it has been taken into most modern Anglican calendars.

[More From Wikipedia the free encyclopedia](#)

[The Transfiguration of Jesus](#) is an event described in the New Testament where Jesus is transfigured and becomes radiant in glory upon a mountain.[1][2] The Synoptic Gospels (Matthew 17:1–8, Mark 9:2–13, Luke 9:28–36) recount the occasion, and the Second Epistle of Peter also refers to it.

In the gospel accounts, Jesus and three of his apostles, Peter, James, and John, go to a mountain (later referred to as the Mount of Transfiguration) to pray. On the mountaintop, Jesus begins to shine with bright rays of light. Then the Old Testament figures Moses and Elijah appear, and he speaks with them. Both figures had eschatological roles: they symbolize the Law and the prophets, respectively. Jesus is then called "Son" by the voice of God the Father, as in the Baptism of Jesus.[1]

Many Christian traditions, including the Eastern Orthodox, Catholic, Lutheran and Anglican churches, commemorate the event in the Feast of the Transfiguration, a major festival. In the original Koine Greek, the word μεταμορφώθη (metemorphōthē), "he was transformed" is used to describe the event in Luke and Mark.[3] In Greek Orthodoxy, the event is called the metamorphosis.[4]

Significance

The transfiguration is one of the miracles of Jesus in the Gospels.[2][5][6] Thomas Aquinas considers the transfiguration "the greatest miracle", in that it complemented baptism and showed the perfection of life in Heaven.[7] The transfiguration is one of the five major milestones in the gospel narrative of the life of Jesus, the others being baptism, crucifixion, resurrection, and ascension.[8][9] In 2002, Pope John Paul II introduced the Luminous Mysteries in the rosary, which include the transfiguration.

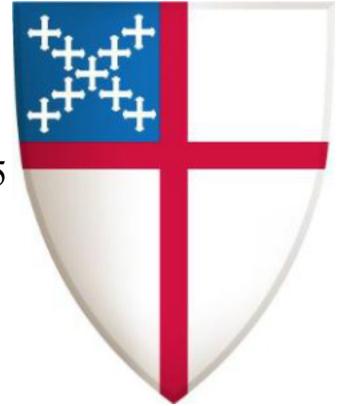
In Christian teachings, the transfiguration is a pivotal moment, and the setting on the mountain is presented as the point where human nature meets God: the meeting place of the temporal and the eternal, with Jesus, as both true man and true God, serving the connecting point, acting as the bridge between heaven and earth.[10] Moreover, Christians consider the transfiguration to fulfill an Old Testament messianic prophecy that Elijah would return again after his ascension (Malachi 4:5–6). Gardner (2015, p. 218) states:

[Continued online](#)

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Welcome Visitor!!!

Please leave your name and contact info below. If you'd like to speak with someone, please check here

Or you can also use the QRC here to fill this out online.



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