# THE HOLY EUCHARIST

# The Last Sunday after Epiphany – The Transfiguration

ST. PAUL'S ON THE GREEN | FEBRUARY II, 2024 - 9:00 & II:00AM

#### PRELUDE

III. Air from Suite No. 1 - Florence B. Price (1887-1953)

Please stand as the bell sounds.



Words: Brian A. Wren (b. 1936)

Music: Mowsley, Cyril Vincent Taylor (1907–1991)

#### THE OPENING ACCLAMATION

The Celebrant intones

Blessed be the one, holy, and living God.

The People respond



Glory to God for - ev - er and ev - er.

## SONG OF PRAISE



Words: Sts. 1–3, Christopher Wordsworth (1807–1885); st. 4, F. Bland Tucker (1895–1984) Music: Salzburg, melody Jakob Hintze (1622–1702); harm. Johann Sebastian Bach (1685–1750)

#### THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

Upon a high mountain, O God of majestic glory, you revealed Jesus in the mystery of his transfiguration as your Son, the Beloved, to whom we must listen. By the word of his gospel, shining for ever as a light in the darkness, give us hope in the midst of suffering and faith to perceive, even in the passion and cross, the glory of the risen Christ, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God for ever and ever.

Amen.

THE LESSON seated 2 Kings 2:1-12

When the Lord was about to take Elijah up to heaven by a whirlwind, Elijah and Elisha were on their way from Gilgal. 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. 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." 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. 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; be silent." 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. Fifty men of the company of prophets also went, and stood at some distance from them, as they both were standing by the Jordan. 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, until the two of them crossed on dry ground. 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." 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." 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. 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.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the People.

Thanks be to God.

At 9am, the Psalm is read reflectively, with a slight pause at the asterisk.

The God of gods has spoken; \*
God has called the earth from the rising of the sun to its setting.

Out of Zion, perfect in its beauty, \* God is revealed in glory.

O God, you will come and will not keep silence; \* before you there is a consuming flame, and round about you a raging storm.

You call the heavens and the earth from above \* to witness the judgment of your people.

"Gather before me my loyal followers, \* those who have made a covenant with me and sealed it with sacrifice."

Let the heavens declare the rightness of your cause, \* for you alone are judge.

Anglican Chant: Will Doreza

THE EPISTLE 2 Corinthians 4:3-6

Even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. For we do not proclaim ourselves; we proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and ourselves as your slaves for Jesus' sake. For it is the God who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the People.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL HYMN The People stand and turn toward the Deacon or Priest as the Gospel comes among the People.



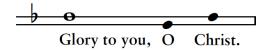
Words: John Oxenham (1852-1941), alt

Music: McKee, Afro-American spiritual; adapt. and harm. Harry T. Burleigh (1866-1949)

In recognition of Black History Month, we will be featuring the many Black composers who have contributed to our repertoire of sacred music. Harry T. Burleigh, born in 1866, was one the first African-American composers to receive widespread recognition for his contributions to the genre of art song. Burleigh wrote many arrangements of African-American spirituals.

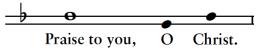
In 1894, Burleigh auditioned for the post of soloist at St. George's Episcopal Church of New York. To the consternation of the congregation, which objected because Burleigh was African American, he was given the position. However, through his talent and dedication (he held the appointment for over fifty years, missing only one performance during his tenure), Burleigh won the hearts and the respect of the entire church community.

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



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, and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no one on earth could bleach them. And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses, who were talking with Jesus. Then Peter said to Jesus, "Rabbi, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." He did not know what to say, for they were terrified. Then a cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud there came a voice, "This is my Son, the Beloved; listen to him!" Suddenly when they looked around, they saw no one with them any more, but only Jesus. 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.

The Gospel of the Lord.



SERMON The Rev. Paul Carling

A period of silent reflection follows the sermon.

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH standing

Nicene Creed

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, She\* is worshipped and glorified. She 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.

\*Holy Spirit in biblical languages is a feminine-gendered word, and we use the feminine pronoun here to highlight that aspect of God's fullness.

#### THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Light eternal, we live in a world inclined towards injustice and oppression. Be our guide through the darkness, we pray, and illumine the path that lies ahead.

You welcomed foreigners to your cradle and accepted their gifts. Shine your light on those who appear strange and different, and help us accept what they offer.

Light eternal,

## Illumine our path, we pray.

You descended from the heavens like a dove and with the power of your light showed pleasure in the newly baptized. Lead the searching into the light of your presence, and shape our communities into places of understanding, nurture and exploration.

Light eternal,

## Illumine our path, we pray.

You modeled the hard way of loving our enemies. Strengthen the light that shines within us, and teach us to have compassion, even for those whom we struggle to love.

Light eternal,

## Illumine our path, we pray.

You healed the sick and injured wherever you traveled. Send forth your light to heal all those who suffer from any sickness of body, mind or spirit, especially those we now name.

Please add your own prayers, aloud or in silence.

Light eternal,

## Illumine our path, we pray.

On the mountain-top, your light dazzled and the line between death and life became thin. Bless those who have transitioned to the land of endless light, and remind us of how close they remain.

Light eternal,

#### Illumine our path, we pray.

Light eternal, your Spirit reveals and illumines your presence in creation. Shine in our lives, that we may offer our hands and hearts to your work: to heal and shelter, to feed and clothe, to break every yoke and spread the freedom of your love.

#### Amen.

#### THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

Please share a sign of peace with those around you.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

seated

## Supporting the Work of St. Paul's

St. Paul's is fully supported by the contributions of its members and friends. Visit the address below or click on the QR code to learn more about the opportunities to give and to make a one-time or sustaining gift to ensure the enduring and vibrant ministry of this place:



stpaulsnorwalk.org/support

Thank You!

MUSIC AT THE OFFERTORY sung by the Choir at 11am

## Glorious is the name of Jesus

Robert Fryson (1944-1994), arr. Jason Max Ferdinand

Glorious is the name of Jesus, Praises to his name! Oh, glorious and righteous and holy is his name. I feel his presence in this place, his Spirit has control. Can't you feel his warm embrace, and all the joy within your soul? Glorious is his name!

Robert J. Fryson was known as one of the greatest gospel vocalists and composers of his time. He became known for founding a male sacred music group called the Voices Supreme. His music has been recorded by James Cleveland, Aretha Franklin, Albertina Walker, and many others.

#### HYMN AT THE OFFERTORY standing



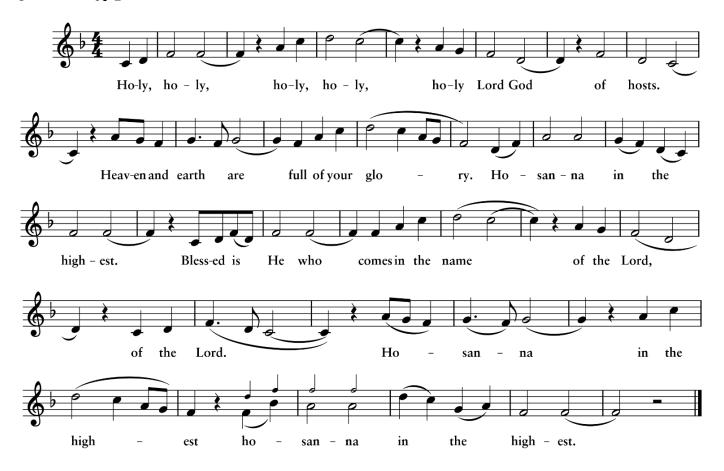
Words: Latin, 15th cent.; tr. Hymns Ancient and Modern, 1861, after John Mason Neale (1848–1866), alt. Music: Wareham, melody William Knapp (1698–1768); alt.;)

#### THE GREAT THANKSGIVING



We praise you and we bless you, gracious God, source of life abundant. From before time you made ready the creation. Your Spirit moved over the deep and brought all things into being: sun, moon, and stars; earth, winds, fire, and water, and every living thing. You made us creators in your image and taught us to walk in your love. But we rebelled against you and wandered far away; and yet, as a mother cares for her children, you would not forget us. Time and again you called us to live in your light and the fullness of your love. So this day we join with Saints and Angels in a chorus of praise that rings through eternity, lifting our voices to magnify you as we sing:

#### SANCTUS & BENEDICTUS



Setting: Grayson Warren Brown (1948-2023)

#### The Celebrant continues

All glory be to you, holy and living God. To deliver us from the power of sin and death and to reveal the riches of your grace, you looked with favor on Mary, your willing servant, that she might conceive and bear a son, Jesus, the holy child of God. Living among us Jesus loved us. He broke bread with outcasts and sinners, healed the sick, and proclaimed good news to the poor. He yearned to draw all the world into your heart, but we were heedless of his call to walk in love.

When the time came to complete the offering of his life, Jesus was at table with his friends. He took bread, gave thanks to you, broke it, and gave it to them, and said: "Take and eat; this is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

As supper was ending, Jesus took the cup of wine. Again he gave thanks to you, gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you; this is my blood of the new Covenant, which is poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, we proclaim the mystery of faith:

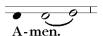
## Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Now gathered at your table, remembering that we are one with you and all creation, we offer to you from your own hand these gifts of bread and wine, and ourselves, a living sacrifice. Pour out your Spirit upon these gifts, that they may be the Body and Blood of Christ. Breathe your Spirit over the whole earth and make us your new creation, the Body of Christ given for the world you have made.

In the fullness of time bring us, with all your children from every tribe and language and people and nation, to feast at the banquet prepared from the foundation of the world.

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

People



The composer of today's Sanctus setting is Grayson Warren Brown (1948-2023). Brown was an internationally known liturgical composer, author and recording artist. He began his ministry in the late 1960s in a small inner-city parish in New York City where he learned early on how significant an authentic, spirit-filled experience of worship can be to people in need of hope. His many years in a multicultural parish gave him a unique insight into the power that good liturgy can instill in people of all backgrounds. His down-to-earth approach to liturgy and Scripture, coupled with his dynamic speaking style, also made him a sought-after presenter for workshops, conventions and parish missions.

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray:



Setting: Nicolai Rimsky-Korsakov (1844-1908); adapted.

#### THE COMMUNION

The Celebrant breaks the bread and invites the People to Communion, saying

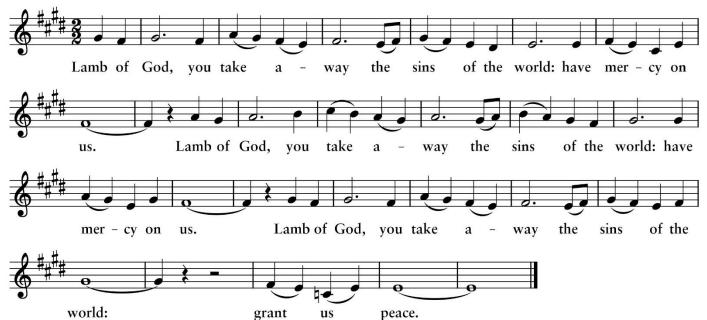
Bread of Life, nourish our souls.

## Light of the world, shine in our hearts.

Everyone is welcome to receive the bread and wine of Communion. Please follow the direction of the ushers. Gluten-free bread is available upon request; grape juice is available in the blue-dot cups at the side altars. (For the health of all, we are no longer dipping the bread into the chalice wine by hand.)

Healing prayer is available in the side aisles for those wishing to pray with someone for any need in their lives.

All sing as the distribution of Communion begins:



Setting: Marjorie Landsmark-DeLewis (1930-2016)

Marjorie Landsmark-DeLewis is best known for her work in the music of dance. One of the first Black students to receive a diploma from The Juilliard School, Marjorie led a distinguished career as rehearsal pianist for the American Ballet Theater, accompanied classes for dance legends Antony Tudor and David Howard, and served as music director for dance at Sarah Lawrence College.

She is remembered in part for her courageous departure of the American Ballet Theater in protest, when asked to tour with the company through the then-segregated American South.

MUSIC AT COMMUNION sung by the Choir at 11am

## I love to tell the story

Words: A. Katherine Hankey (1831-1911) Music: William G. Fischer (1835-1912)

While this hymn was composed and written by a white poet and musician, it is part of a body of songs and hymns of Methodist origin that was adopted over time by African-American Christian communities.

#### THE PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

God of abundance, you have fed us with the bread of life and cup of salvation; you have united us with Christ and one another; and you have made us one with all your people in heaven and on earth. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue forever in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.

## THE BLESSING

The Light of Christ be in your hearts:
The small light that becomes a burning flame;
The warm light that grows into a great love;
The bright light that leads us on our way.
And the blessing of God: Eternal Majesty, Incarnate Word, and Abiding Presence,
Be upon you now and remain with you always.

Amen.

#### HYMN IN PROCESSION



Words: Carl P. Daw, Jr. (b. 1944)

Music: Hyfrydol, Rowland H. Prichard (1811-1887)

#### THE DISMISSAL

Let us go and tell the world that we have seen the glory of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

ORGAN VOLUNTARY

Toccata on Great Day - Adolphus Hailstork (b.1941)

# THE WORSHIP IS OVER - THE SERVICE BEGINS

ST Paul's on the Green - 60 East Ave., Norwalk, CT 06851

Contact us at: 203-847-2806 info@stpaulsnorwalk.org
The Rev. Daniel Simons Rector
The Rev. Paul Carling Priest Associate
Molly Cooke Seminarian
Will Doreza Interim Director of Music
Josh Ehlebracht Interim Organist
Marsha Dunn Parish Administrator

All music in this leaflet is printed with permission from OneLicense.net, License #A-709109 Psalms: © Order of Saint Helena, used by permission