

Today we celebrate the feast of the Transfiguration, remembering the day when Jesus was transfigured before the eyes of his closest disciples. On that day, our Lord's glory shone through him like the sun, his whole being shining with light. We recall that on the first day of creation, God transformed the world with light. Let us join Peter, James, and John on this holy mountain, where Jesus, who dwells within us, transforms every darkness in our lives to light.

As we gather let us begin our service by professing what we believe.

Profession of Faith p. 106

I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible. I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God, born of the Father before all ages. God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father; through him all things were made. For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven, (bow as we say) and by the Holy Spirit he was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate, he suffered death and was buried, and rose again on the third day 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. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church. I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Introductory Rite:

Greeting:

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Grace and peace to you from God our Father and from the Lord Jesus Christ.

Blessed be God forever. **Blessed be God forever.**

Penitential Rite: p. 6

My brothers and sisters, to prepare ourselves for this celebration, let us call to mind our sins.

I confess to almighty God and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have greatly sinned, in my thoughts and in my words, in what I have done and in what I have failed to do, through my fault, through my fault, through my most grievous fault; therefore I ask blessed Mary ever-Virgin, all the Angels and Saints, and you, my brothers and sisters, to pray for me to the Lord our God.

May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins, and bring us to everlasting life. **Amen**

Opening Prayer:

O God, who in the glorious Transfiguration of your Only begotten Son confirmed the mysteries of faith by the witness of the fathers and wonderfully prefigured our full adoption to sonship, grant, we pray, to your servants, that, listening to the voice of your beloved Son, we may merit to become co-heirs with him. Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Liturgy of the Word:

First Reading p. 100

A reading from the Book of the Prophet Daniel

Daniel 7:9-10, 13-14

As I watched:

Thrones were set up and the Ancient One took his throne. His clothing was bright as snow, and the hair on his head as white as wool; his throne was flames of fire, with wheels of burning fire. A surging stream of fire

flowed out from where he sat; Thousands upon thousands were ministering to him, and myriads upon myriads attended him. The court was convened and the books were opened.

As the visions during the night continued, I saw:

One like a Son of man coming, on the clouds of heaven; When he reached the Ancient One and was presented before him, The one like a Son of man received dominion, glory, and kingship; all peoples, nations, and languages serve him. His dominion is an everlasting dominion that shall not be taken away, his kingship shall not be destroyed.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God

Responsorial Song

Psalm 97:1-2, 5-6, 9

R/. The Lord is king, the Most High over all the earth.

R/. The Lord is king, the Most High over all the earth.

The LORD is king; let the earth rejoice; let the many islands be glad.

Clouds and darkness are round about him, justice and judgment are the foundation of his throne. **R/.**

The mountains melt like wax before the LORD, before the LORD of all the earth.

The heavens proclaim his justice, and all peoples see his glory. **R/.**

Because you, O LORD, are the Most High over all the earth, exalted far above all gods. **R/.**

Second Reading

A reading from the second Letter of Saint Peter

2 Peter 1:16-19

Beloved: 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 unique declaration came to him from the majestic glory, "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. Moreover, we possess the prophetic message that is altogether reliable.

You will do well to be attentive to it, as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel

Matthew 13:44-52 or 13:44-46

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Glory to you, Lord

Jesus took Peter, James, and his brother, John, and led them up a high mountain by themselves. And he was transfigured before them; his face shone like the sun and his clothes became white as light. And behold, Moses and Elijah appeared to them, conversing with him. Then Peter said to Jesus in reply, "Lord, it is good that we are here. If you wish, I will make three tents here, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah."

While he was still speaking, behold, a bright cloud cast a shadow over them, then from the cloud came a voice that said, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him." When the disciples heard this, they fell prostrate and were very much afraid. But Jesus came and touched them, saying, "Rise, and do not be afraid." And when the disciples raised their eyes, they saw no one else but Jesus alone.

As they were coming down from the mountain, Jesus charged them, "Do not tell the vision to anyone until the Son of Man has been raised from the dead."

The Gospel of the Lord .

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Reflection on the Word:

- Matthew writes that when Peter, James, and John see Jesus transfigured and hear the voice of God they are "very much afraid" (Matthew 17:6). Jesus immediately goes to them and calms them, saying "Do not be afraid" (17:7), recalling the words an angel says whenever appearing to someone in the Bible. Seeing their Lord in his dazzling glory and hearing God's voice unnerves them, just as people visited by spiritual beings are unnerved. To reassure and refocus the disciples, Jesus at once sets their minds at ease.
- What should their focus be at this point of Jesus' mission? Just before their journey up this mountain, Jesus had told them for the first time that he would suffer at the hands of the authorities, be killed, and then be raised on the third day. He had gone on to tell them that his disciples must deny themselves, take up their crosses, and follow him. They will be repaid for their conduct when "the Son of Man will come with his angels in his Father's glory" (16:27). Now they have just seen a foretaste of that glory. In case they don't put two and two together, God explicitly commands them to listen to Jesus. He told you that he would be put to death. Listen to him. He told you that you must carry your crosses. Listen to him. He promised you that he will be raised and come again in glory to repay you. Listen to him.
- Our world has always been in need of transformation, and these days that need seems especially great. Jesus gives us the first step. We need to deny our own priorities, our own desires, our own self-interests, and take up the challenge to uncover and reveal the kingdom that God is building in our midst. Let us be, as Peter says, "a lamp shining in a dark place," shining the light of God into the darknesses in need of transfiguration (2 Peter 1:19).

Question of the Week

Which self-interest of mine will I promise to put aside and what cross will I pledge to carry, transfiguring my life and my little part of the world?

Prayer of the Faithful:

The Transfiguration gave three disciples a vision of Christ's future glory. Let us now envision a transfigured world and offer our prayers for that glorious future to be realized.

- For our Church, that our love of God and love of neighbor may help transfigure the world into one where every person is loved and well cared for, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, hear our prayer.**
- That weapons of war may be beaten into plowshares so that violence may be transformed into bountifulness, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, hear our prayer.**
- For those who go hungry, especially in regions of the world where growing food is difficult, that we may transform the environment so that harvests may be plenty, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, hear our prayer.**
- That our hearts may be transfigured to welcome and value immigrants and refugees, who find in this nation the hopes and dreams that our ancestors have found for generations, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, hear our prayer.**
- For our faith community, that we may be a home for those who wish to transform their lives to ones rooted in faith, hope, and love, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

- For what else should we pray?... Let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, hear our prayer.**
- For all the prayers that we hold in the silence of our hearts; for all our intentions spoken and unspoken, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Loving God, you told your Son's disciples to listen to him. Help us listen to him so we may transform our lives to more closely conform to his. Grant this and all our prayers, through your transfigured Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Communion Rite

The Lord's Prayer: p. 140

Let us pray with confidence to the Father in the words our Savior gave us.

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.

Rite of Peace:

The sign of peace outwardly expresses a deep spiritual reality; through this sign we acknowledge Christ's presence in each other and share the peace we have received from Him. Let us offer each other the sign of peace.

Let us offer each other the sign of peace.

Communion:

Behold the Lamb of God, behold him who takes away the sins of the world. Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb.

Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof, but only say the word and my soul shall be healed.

The body of Christ. **Amen.**


Prayer after Communion:

May the heavenly nourishment we have received O Lord, we pray, transform us into the likeness of your Son, whose radiant splendor you willed to make manifest in his glorious Transformation.

Through Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Concluding Rite:

Final Blessing:

May the Lord bless us,  protect us from all evil and bring us to everlasting life. **Amen.**
Go in the peace of Christ! **Thanks be to God.**